Despite N. Korea's threats, Japanese officials call for sanctions Page 5

STARS STRIPES.

Misawa BX set for night of bargain madness

@ SS 2004

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2004

Carlton feels no pressure to be a pop-star vixen



D.C. financing deal could mean short stay for Expos

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Army shifts focus to armor trucks in Iraq

With Humvees being taken care of, other vehicles get attention Page 4



ebo Elementary School music teacher DeEtte Hassen gestures while leading Sasebo kindergartners in song. More on Page 3.



bo Elementary School first-grade pupils, from left, Joel Encarnacion, Alyssa Alley, Megan Craig, Orielle Edwards and Monica nan sing in front of an audience of about 200 at the Sasebo Naval Base, Japan, school's annual Christmas Concert on Wednesday,

Sasebo sing-along celebrates sounds of the season



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Sunday

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e ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Rapper's death: The death of rapper O.D.B. was deemed an accident by the New York City medical examiner, who said Wednesday that he died from the combined effects of cocaine and a

scription painkiller. O.D.B., whose legal name was Russell Jones, died at a Manhattan recording studio Nov. 13 "as a result of intoxication" by cocaine and the painkiller Tramadol, said

Ellen Borakove, a spokeswoman for the New York City medical examiner's office. O.D.B., 35, complained of chest pains be-

fore collapsing at the studio, and he was dead by the time paramedics reached him. O.D.B., also known as Ol' Dirty Bastard, was a founding member of the rap group the Wu-Tang Clan.

Michael Jackson investigation: Prosecu-tors in Michael Jackson's child molestation case want to introduce evidence that the singer has committed other sex crimes over the years that went un-

charged. Prosecutors argue in a motion released Tues-day that the evidence be admitted under a 1995 California law that lets relevant previous acts, whether prosecuted or not, be considered in sex crime cases.

The motion from the

district attorney's of-fice, as well as a defense request for a six-week delay of the scheduled Jan. 31 trial, were released by the court with key sections blacked out and are scheduled for argument in hearings to hegin Monday

Baby's severed-arms death: A McKinney, Texas, mother who admitted killing her baby daughter by severing the girl's arms was guided by a Bible passage in which Jesus refers to cutting off body parts to cast away

sin, the woman's attorney said Tuesday.

Dena Schlosser, a 35-year-old housewife with a history of mental illness, has referred to the New Testament passage since the killing of 10-month-old Margaret, attorney David Haynes said.

Schlosser was charged with capital murder Nov. 22, after she told an emergency services operator she had cut off her baby's arms. Police found her in the living room, covered in blood, still holding a knife and listening to a hymn.

Business

Time Warner-AOLfraud settlement: Time Warner Inc. has agreed to pay \$210 million to settle securities fraud charges involving the company's America Online unit, law enforcement officials said Wednesday.

Under terms of the settlement with the Justice Department, prosecution on charges of aiding and abetting securities fraud will be deferred provided that AOL and Time Warner cooperate in an ongoing investiga tion into whether AOL improperly helped smaller Internet companies artificially inflate their earnings.

An independent monitor will be chosen to oversee AOL's compliance and the company must agree to a number of changes in its internal practices, said a Justice Department official who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity.

Military

School strafing: Pilots will resume training Thursday at a military range that has been shut down since an F-16 fighter accidentally fired at an Little Egg Harbor Township, N.J., intermediate school last month, officials said.

Though training will resume at the Warren Grove Gunnery Range, no weapons will be fired for now. Changes have been made to increase safety, Col. Brian Webster said.

"We've implemented a number of new operational procedures and guidelines that allow us to safely resume temporary, limit-ed, non-ordnance training," Webster said in a statement. He commands the 177th Fight er Wing of the New Jersey Air National Guard, which supervises the range.

Yushchenko's poisoning: New tests reveal the level of dioxin in the blood of Ukrainian presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko is more than 6.000 times higher than normal, according to the expert analyzing the samples.

The concentration, about 100,000 units per gram of blood fat, is the second highest ever recorded, said Abraham Brouwer, professor of environmental toxicology at the University in Amsterdam, where blood samples taken last weekend in Vienna were sent for analysis.

A normal level of dioxin is between 15 and 45 units. Almost everyone has some level of dioxins because the toxic chemical is widespread in the environment - mainly

from its industrial usages - and accumulates in the food chain.

In the case of Yushchenko, Brouwer's



400 dioxins to about 29 and is confident they will identify the poison by week's end. That, in turn, could provide clues for the investigation of the alleged poisoning.

Afghan attack: Provincial forces who came under attack called in coalition artillery support that killed seven insurgents in southeastern Afghanistan, a U.S. official said Wednesday.

The clash occurred Monday night in Khost province, and no coalition or provin-cial forces were wounded, U.S. Maj. Mark McCann told a regular media briefing.

Indian train collision: Railway officials say a train collision in northern India that killed at least 37 people apparently was caused by a communications lapse between stations, and that the two stationmasters face criminal charges in the disaster.

An express passenger train and a local train collided head-on Tuesday in a rural stretch of northern Punjab state, killing both drivers plus 35 other people aboard the trains. Rescuers had recovered all bodies by Wednesday and the tracks were cleared for traffic to resume, Railway spokesman M.Y. ddiqui said

War on terrorism

Request for clemency: U.S. Sen. Mike DeWine asked the Army to grant clemency to two Ohio soldiers imprisoned for taking Army vehicles abandoned in Kuwait by other units so they could carry out their own unit's mission to Íraq.

In a letter to Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz, commander of the multinational force in Iraq, DeWine asked that the punishment for Darrell Birt, of Columbus, and Maj. Cathy Kaus be reduced to time served.

Birt. Kaus and four other members of the 656th Transportation Company based in Springfield, Ohio, were court-martialed and charged with theft, destruction of Army property and conspiracy to cover up their

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Scouts deliver goods to orphans

BY VINCE LITTLE

About 30 Cub Scouts and their families from Pack 34 Camp Zama, Japan, made their eighth annual pilgrimage to the Aikeikai Orphanage in Machida last Saturday, delivering more than 1,200 pounds of donations gathered during a one-day food drive in November

The group also carried a onetary contribution 35,000 yen, about \$332, to the local facility, which houses al-most 50 children ages 5 and vounger

After loading up a truck that morning, at the Sagamihara Housing Area, Pack 34 members traveled to Machida and formed a human chain inside the orphanage, passing along items such as rice, canned fruits and vegetables, diapers dehydrated potatoes, wet wipes, baby food, juice boxes and bottled juice. The entire haul exceeded last year's collection by about 200 pounds.

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Tom Snider, a den leader and pack spokesman, labeled Saturday's effort a huge success

"Things went very well," he said. "It's extremely rewarding for everyone who went on the trip. It allows the kids to meet other children of a different nationality, and it lets us provide a service and promote good citizenship in the community, which is one of the tenets of Cub scouting.

Rice comprised roughly half of the donations, Snider said The food drive, organized by Sheri Muzzy, took place Nov. 21 at the Camp Zama and Sagamihara Housing Area commissaries.

After Saturday's handover, the scouts spent time interacting with the Japanese orphans

Snider said the Cub Scouts always get a tremendous response from the orphanage which was "extremely pleased about the visit and the dona-

"I think the kids there are somewhat timid at first" he said, "but once they get to playing with some toys on the floor and taking pictures, it's a great time for everyone

"Pack 34 would like to thank the generosity of the Camp Zama community. Folks that live here and go to the commissarv are the ones who made this happen. Without their donations, we couldn't have made the trip."

E-mail Vince Little at: littlev@pstripes.osd.mil

Misawa Midnight Madness mixes sales, entertainment

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan -The "Midnight Madness" holiday sale at Misawa's base exchange appears aptly named. Army and Air Force Exchange Service offi-cials at Misawa say they expect more than 5,000 people to pass through the store for Friday's 9 p.m.-to-midnight shopping extrav-

During last December's inaugu-ral "Midnight Madness." lines began forming between 4 and 5 p.m. When the gate opened, it took 21 minutes for waiting customers to file inside.

Store managers expect an even bigger crowd this time.

"Anticipation with the community is growing," said Wayne Hansen, Misawa exchange general manager. "It's more than just a shopping experience. It's entertainment at the same time

The draw is a mix of more than \$6,000 in prizes to be given away including a \$4,000, 42-inch Sony plasma television — an eating contest featuring mysterious Japanese food, a 3-hour running marathon for a treadmill and the promise of super sales. Special discounts include a 30-percent

markdown on DVD players and \$100 off the first 20 Hewlett Packard computers sold. Anyone who wears pajamas gets 10 percent off any one item in the store, AAFES officials said, with a maximum savings of \$100

Judging by last year's sale, Friday will be an evening in which thousands of customers pursue slashed ticket prices or that last-minute holiday present. Store officials say they anticipate no problems.

"We'll have our own security in the store, and every manager will be working," Hansen said. "We have exits all over the store."

Mike Patmon, Misawa BX sales and merchandise manager, said room temperature inside the 43.000-square foot building will be cooled prior to the sale. The store closes at 8 p.m. for one hour while employees set up

Special discount items are snaced throughout the store to help with crowd control, Hansen said. While in the past customers have squabbled over who found an item first, Patmon said, last year's holiday Midnight Madness saw no fights or injuries.

"We did have a lot of people here ... but it was a lot calmer than we experienced the day after Thanksgiving," he said. About 3,000 people made pur chases during the 2003 Midnight Madness; sales for the night eclipsed \$200,000.

Other AAFES stores hold similar sales, officials said. Yokota Air Base near Tokyo, for instance, is to hold a Midnight Madness sale from 9 p.m. to midnight Saturday. But within the AAFES world, Misawa has one of the largest such sales during the holidays, AAFES Misawa officials said.

"We get the community involved a little more," Patmon

American Forces Network's EDGE Radio 1575 is broadcasting advance word about Midnight Madness, and AFN disc jockeys were to cover the event live Friday night.

Patmon said AAFES officials negotiate months ahead of time with vendors for special deals. The plasma TV is a promotion through Misawa New Car Sales,

Sony and the Misawa BX. On Friday, cash registers are slated to stay open until 2 a.m. Several food-court eateries also are planning to stay open during

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: svanj@pstripes.osd.mil

Yokota Self-Help Store

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan -Due to the upcoming Aerospace Expeditionary Force deployment, the Yokota Self-Help Store will change its hours of operation beginning Jan. 3, base officials said.

The new hours are:

■ Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., or 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. during wing exercises. ■ Tuesday, Thursday, Satur-

day and Sunday; closed. Call DSN 225-7086 for more information.

Christmas drop

Operation Christmas Drop is back on

The Air Force's 52nd annual mission to deliver supplies to remote Pacific islands was nostponed earlier in the week due to a typhoon watch. But the storm stayed well to the south of Guam, allowing C-130 cargo planes from Yokota Air Base, Japan, to resume flights Tuesday, said Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, spokesman Tech. Sgt. Jeff Cape-

"They've delivered approximately 28,000 pounds of goods," Canenos said Wednesday

Capenos didn't know the total weight to be delivered, but he said 60 boxes would be dropped on 59 islands throughout Micronesia and Northern Marianas this week, weather permitting.

Most of the islands included in the annual goodwill mission are too small for planes to land on. Many have few inhabitants who, cut off by a wide expanse of ocean, wouldn't otherwise be able to acquire some of the items delivered via the Christmas drop. Capenos said that local businesses, government and private organizations this year donated everything from toys and sports gear to rice and toothpaste.

"It's things they don't have that they definitely can use," he said. U.S. Hiroshima victim

The name of a U.S. Army pilot killed by the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, was added Monday to the names of victims at Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims.

A B-24 bomber pilot, Joseph Dubinsky, was 27 when the blast killed him. He was a prisoner of war in Hiroshima after his homber was shot down on July 28 1945, said local historian Shigeaki Mori. Mori said he believes Dubinsky, from Washington, Pa., was a second lieutenant

When Dubinsky's bomber was shot down, it was one of 34 on a mission to attack Japanese vessels moored at Kure Bay. Five of 11 crewmembers parachuted out of the plane. Dubinsky fainted after his parachute got stuck on a nine tree.

Mori registered Dubinsky's name on behalf of his half-brother, Branko Stupar of Potomac. Md., who also provided Dubinsky's photo for the memorial hall.

Dubinsky is the eighth American servicemember to be registered at the hall.

From staff reports

E-mail Greg Tyler at: tylerg@pstripes.osd.mil

Sweet sounds of music



School music teacher DeEtte Hassen leads pupils, from left, Mattie Espiritu, Lisa Reese and Taylor Ingram in songs in front of an audience of about 200 at the Sasebo Naval Base, Japan, school's annual **Christmas Concert** Wednesday night. GREG TYLER

Sasebo Elementary

Fun planned at Iwakuni Jingle Bell Jog BY GREG TYLER

Stars and Strines

Up to 1,000 people are expected to take part in the annual Jingle Bell Jog at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, a Christmas-themed costumed jog around the base set for 10 a.m. Wednesday, base officials

The 2K-run/walk, open to all base personnel, will be led this year by the NFL's Chicago Honey Bears cheerleaders.

Last year the event had 965 participants, officials

This is kind of a wacky event on base where everyone comes out and just relaxes and has fun," said Master Sgt. Lesli Coakley, base spokeswoman. "It's going to be good for the base this year, allowing participants a chance to just blow off some steam and have a good time.

Marine Corps Community Services and Semp Fit sponsor the event. Semper Fit will award \$200 and \$100 respectively for the party funds of the best-dressed and most motivated military units.

The best civilian team costume wins a \$200 gift certificate; the best family team, a \$100 gift certificate Individual age group winners also are to receive from \$30 to \$75 gift certificates.

After the run, a free lunch, drawings and door prizes are scheduled at Iron Works Gym for run participants, capped by a special Honey Bears perfor-

Prizes include a Canon digital camera. Xbox. stereo, CD player and a six-foot Christmas stockings filled with toys and MCCS gift certificates. All partic ipants under 17 will receive a \$5 MCCS gift certificate and a gift from Santa.

The grand prize is an MCCS Information, Travel and Tours trip for two adults to the Sapporo Ice Festival

Groups and individuals interested in taking part should e-mail Billie Scott at Billie.Scott@ usmc-mccs.org or call 253-6883 by the end of the day Friday.

Army turns focus to armoring trucks in Iraq

By LISA BURGESS Stars and Strines

ARLINGTON, Va. - After expanding its contract to acquire armored Humvees at a rate of 550 per month instead of 450, the Army has now turned its focus toward armoring its trucks in Iraq by June. Army of-

ficials said Wednesday.

And in the future, thanks to lessons learned in Iraq and Afghanistan, all Army vehicles will be designed so they can be quickly armored with a kit — even if that vehicle was never designed for combat, according to Gary Motsek, the Army's deputy director for support operations at the U.S. Army Material Command at Fort Bel-

voir. Va.



"We can't just go ahead and disregard the lessons of this cam-paign," Motsek said. "We are adapting our truck strategies now, [because] we'll never again assume that if you are going to onerate a truck fleet, that it's going to be in conditions [that are] safe and secure

The Humvee issue is now on track and fully funded, said Maj. Gen. Stephen Speakes, who joined Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sorenson and other Army officials to discuss the armoring issue.

"A year ago, Humvees were the priori-" Speakes said. "Now with the increase of lethality on the battlefield, it's time to



Gary Motsek, the Army's deputy director for support operations at the U.S. Army Material Command at Fort Belvoir, Va., shows the armored plating on the door of a HEMTT, the Army's Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck, at the Pentagon on Wednesday.

take care of the bigger trucks, and we're doing that.'

The Army has sought out manufacturers to acquire armor kits for the larger vehicles. In August 2003, there were seven companies that supplied armor kits. There are now more than 20

Today, 53 percent of the medium and heavy vehicles in Iraq that commanders have said they would like armored actually have such protection, according to statistics provided by the Army.

Speakes, who is in charge of Force Development for the Army, said the service plans to spend \$4.1 billion to armor all of its wheeled vehicles by next summer.

The project to armor every wheeled transport vehicle will include armoring

5,878 "medium transport vehicles," such as five-ton trucks, and 4.443 "heavy transport vehicles," such as the 10-ton Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical (HEMTT), according to the statistics.

Friday, December 17, 2004

"We believe that by June, we will have Level I and Level II armor on the [remaining wheeled] force," Speakes said.

Level I is the Army's term for vehicles that were built from the ground-up to support armor, including a reinforced chassis to support the extra weight and configurations of the plating.

Level II is what the Army calls specially designed kits that are manufactured in the United States, then shipped to the Iraq theater for soldiers to install on their vehicles

There is another Level, Level III, which Army officials use to describe the ad-hoc additions that soldiers devise on their own to protect their vehicles in the field.

Armoring vehicles not normally designed for combat operations became a serious issue in Iraq starting in early September 2003, as improvised explosive devices began to take more and more of a toll on U.S. forces in Iraq.

The Senate Armed Services Committee will hold hearings on the Iraq war when the new Congress convenes next month, including an examination of criticism that the Defense Department failed to prepare for the insurgency and went into action with a shortage of armor for trucks and Humvees the nanel's ranking Democrat Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., told the Washington Post on Tuesday.

Bombing kills seven at shrine in Karbala

By PAUL GARWOOD The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - A bomb exploded at the gate of a revered Shiite shrine Wednesday, killing seven people in an apparent attempt to kill an aide to Iraq's top Shiite cleric and casting the shadow of violence over the first day of cam-paigning in the country's crucial

uary elections The attack in Karbala. which ded the representative of Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, came hours after the campaign kicked off, with Iraqi interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi announcing his candidacy. Allawi's defense minister accused Irani an and Syrian intelligence agents of helping insurgents in Irac

Also on Wednesday, a Western official in Baghdad said Sadd-am's notorious right-hand man, Ali Hassan al-Majid, known as "Chemical Ali," would be among the first to appear in court next week to face charges for crimes allegedly committed during Sad-dam's 35-year dictatorship. Allawi said earlier that formal indictments could be issued against some of Saddam's top deputies next month — just ahead of the Jan. 30 election.

Ali Hasan al-Majid, who was No. 2 on the coalition's deck of most-wanted playing cards, is accused of ordering the 1988 Halabja chemical weapons attacks against Kurds, the 1990 invasion Kuwait and suppressing a 1991 Shiite uprising in southern

He is among 12 regime mem-bers, waiting to face trial, including Saddam, who was arrested a

ear ago Monday. The blast south of Baghdad underlined worries over security during the campaign and the election, with insurgents expected to attempt to derail the vote

creating a national assembly. While Iraq's Shiite Muslim majority has welcomed an election it likely will dominate, Sunni Arabs have expressed fears they will be eclipsed and some have called for a boycott of the vote. Al-Sistani has backed a coalition of major Shiite political parties that has put forward a list of candidates and is expected to do well in the first national election since Saddam's fall.

Sunni militants have been accused in past attacks against Shi-ites and their holy sites. There was no immediate claim of re-sponsibility for Wednesday's

The blast went off at the west-ern gate of the Imam Hussein Shrine in Karbala, killing seven people and wounding 31, said Dr. Abdul-Abbas Al-Timimi, director of Al-Hussein hospital

Al-Sistani's representative. Sheik Abdul Mahdi al-Karbalayee, was among the wounded, and an al-Sistani spokesman said al-Karbalayee was the intended target of the blast. Several of his bodyguards were among the dead and wounded, the spokesman — Hamed al-Khafaf — told Al-Jazeera television.

Navy investigated alleged abuses

By PAISLEY DODDS The Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico - Newly released U.S. Navy documents portray a series of abuse cases stretching beyond Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison where photos surfaced this year of U.S. troops forcing prisoners — often naked — to pose in humiliating positions

The files released Tuesday document a crush of abuse allegations, most from the early months of the U.S. occupation of Iraq, including U.S. Marines forcing Iraqi juveniles to kneel while troops discharge a weapon in a mock execution and the use of an electric shock on a prisoner.

The approximately 10,000 files include investigation reports from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and witness interviews

All names have been blacked out in the documents, which were released after a federal court ordered the government to comply with a Freedom of Information Act petition filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, the Center for Constitutional Rights and other organizations

"This kind of widespread abuse could not have taken place without a leadership failure of the highest order," said ACLU Executive Director Antho-

The Pentagon says cases of abuse are taken seriously and investigated.

"The fact that these cases have been investigated underscores the point that we've been making, which is when we have credible allegations of abuse we take them seriously and investigate them," said Maj. Michael Shavers, a Pentagon spokesman.

Some of the documents include the alleged executions of Iragis.

The Navy found the allegations to be "unsubstantiated" and closed the investigation. It remains unclear whether any other military branches are in-

In one of the reports, a Marine said he and two others were ordered to kill three Iraqis.

"The executions allegedly took place in early April 2003 while the unit was temporarily based at an abandoned Iraqi pharmaceutical factory south of Baghdad," according to the NCIS document, dated June 26, 2003.

The Marine said he was threatened with death if he did not carry out the order. The bodies of the dead Iraqis allegedly were dumped in a hole, the document said

After the incident was reported, the Marines were interviewed.

One, who was interviewed and advised of his rights, retracted his previous statements, saving the executions never took place.

He said he "made up the story to tell his friends ... unlike his colleagues, he didn't have good stories to tell about his deployment to Iraq," the report said. It added that the Marine said he was drunk and made up the story while at a party

The suspect, whose name along with others allegedly involved was blacked out, was given a polygraph test, "an evaluation of the examination indicated [he] was being truthful in his responses.

Troops have said many of them are trained in ways to trick polygraph examiners. It was unclear whether the Marine was disciplined for the alleged fabrication.

At least 19 prisoner deaths in Iraq and Afghanistan have been investigated by the military; eight were determined to be justified killings of an escaping or dangerously violent prisoner.

everal Marines have been charged in connection with the treatment of a member of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party who died of strangulation after a Marine grabbed him by the neck at a holding facility. Investigators ruled that the death was accidental, but other investigations are pending.

In another of the documents, a Navy corpsman is quoted as saying, "there was a lot of peer pressure to keep one's mouth shut."

IN THE WORLD

Japan dismisses North Korea's 'war' remark

BY AUDREY MCAVOY

The Associated Press

TOKYO - Japanese officials on Wednesday brushed off a North Korean statement saying it would consider sanctions imposed by Tokyo "a declaration of war," and renewed calls to penalize the North for fail-ing to account fully for Japanese citizens it abducted decades ago.

China's prime minister, meanwhile, reportedly urged Japan to show restraint on the matter to avoid derailing multinational talks on dismantling the North's nuclear

weapons program. Pressure has been building in Janan for the government to halt trade or impose economic penalties on the North to prod it to divulge more about the Japanese citizens it kidnapped in the 1970s and

A spokesman for the North Korean Foreign Ministry warned Japan it would consider sanctions an act of war.

"If sanctions are applied ... we will re gard it as a declaration of war against our country and promptly react to the action by an effective physical method," the spokesman said in a statement carried by

Officials renew calls for sanctions on North after abductee remains prove to be fraudulent

the official Korean Central News Agency on Wednesday. It didn't elaborate.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hoso-da and other Japanese officials refused to comment on the statement.

Calls for sanctions mounted last week after a DNA analysis conducted on remains Pyongyang said belonged to one of the abduction victims showed they were in-

stead those of two unknown people On Tuesday, a spokesman for the North Korean Foreign Ministry accused Tokyo of distorting the test results, angering Japa-

nese lawmakers.
"It's terrible," said ruling Liberal Democratic Party lawmaker Yoshihide Suga. who sits on a panel mulling sanctions

against the North. "North Korea is often called a rogue state, but this proves it," he said Wednes-

Shinzo Abe, the LDP's acting secretary-general and a leading advocate of sanctions, said the reclusive regime's behavior only proved that dialogue would go

"It is unforgivable that they sent a stranger's bones" to the parents of the kidnap victim, Abe said. "But that they would try to disregard their own behavior and accuse us of falsifying the results makes it clear there is no point to continuing talks with

Even Kazuo Shii, the head of the Japan Communist Party, said sanctions may become necessary.

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, however, has argued that such action could make further progress on the kidnappings impossible.

"We need to clarify what their true intentions are," Koizumi told reporters Wednesday. He added that Pyongyang's real meaning may differ from its official statements. Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao. meanwhile, urged visiting Japanese lawmakers to avoid taking any steps that might disrupt six-nation talks on disman tling the North's nuclear program, accord-ing to Japanese public broadcaster NHK.

The two Koreas, the United States, Rus-sia, China and Japan have held three rounds of talks on the North's nuclear program. A fourth round scheduled for Sentember was postponed and a new date hasn't been set

North Korea has admitted kidnapping 13 Japanese citizens to train spies. Pyong-yang allowed five of them to return to Japan in 2002, saying the other eight were dead. North Korea, however, has offered no convincing proof of the deaths, and many in Japan suspect some of the victims may still be alive.

The North Koreans handed over two sets of human remains to Japanese negotiators last month as proof that two of the kidnapping victims were dead. Tests, however, showed that the remains belonged to other. unidentified people.

Last week, two groups of Japanese lawmakers passed resolutions calling for a threat of sanctions against North Korea. A survey released Tuesday by Japan's larg-est newspaper, the Yomiuri, showed 74 percent of voters favored sanctions

Honda robot hits its stride, learns to jog

The Associated Press

WAKO, Japan - The walking, talking child-size robot from Honda Motor Co. now manages an easy, although comical, iog - the latest in the Japanese automaker's

quest to imitate human movement The 51-inch-tall, bubble-headed robot added a couple of infrared cameras and a sensor to better absorb shock and keep its balance for a steady, mechanical-looking run at a slow pace of 1.9 mph in a dem onstration Wednesday at a Honda

The robot called Asimo, a take on the Japanese word for "leg" or "ashi." debuted four years ago and has undergone several upgrades. The latest has a rotating hip that

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the ground when running - an activity that's different from walking in that both feet must be off the ground in a hon at a given point in

The new Asimo is a bit smarter, loaded with a CPU equivalent of about five personal computers, and can dodge people and other obstacles in its nath when moving to an instructed destination, forming its own route according to a map program inside its brain.

Although Asimo already has climbed up and down stairs and carried on simple conversations with voice-recognition capability, it still can't step over things in its way or run up and down slopes. Honda officials said.

The new machine moves about

0425-52-7254



Asimo, Honda Motor Co.'s walking. jogging robot, steps backward as it shakes hands with a model in Wako, Japan, on Wednesday,

twice as fast as the previous model, which walked at a speed of

The upgrade also has a sensor in its wrist so it can be led by the hand with a pull and walks backward if it's slightly nudged with a

The new Asimo also gained a noving thumb and is smart enough to reach toward an extended hand, delivering a more realistic handshake — an asset for its job as ambassador for Honda. In the past, a person had to find Asimo's mechanical hand.

Asimo has rung the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange, accompanied the prime minister on an overseas trip and shaken hands with dignitaries. It's not for

What Honda really wants is a

robot that can help with tasks. Honda is hoping Asimo will be running errands, delivering relatively light things such as in-office mail, working side by side with Honda employees perhaps by 2010, said Takanobu Ito, a managing director.

But Asimo is not about to replace auto workers at Honda plants any time soon.

Afghan abduction ends in slaying of engineer

BY PAUL ALEXANDER The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan - The latest abduction of a foreigner in Afghanistan — a Turkish engi neer working on a U.S.-sponsored road construction project ended when the kidnappers killed him, apparently so he wouldn't slow them down with police hot on their trail.

Eyup Orel was working for Serhat, a Turkish subcontractor for U.S.-based The Louis Berger Group, said company vice presi-dent Tom Nicastro. An Australian pilot for Berger was killed in February when a man raked his helicopter with AK-47 fire.

Orel was the second Turkish engineer to be killed in the res tive Afghan countryside this year. Security forces found his body during a massive search operation, said Jamil Jumbesh, head of the Interior Ministry's anti-terror division.

was no immediate claim of responsibility. Bandits and insurgents from the Taliban and other Islamic extremist groups operate in the area about 110 miles east of the capital. Kabul, officials said

President Hamid Karzai con-demned the killing, and ordered security agencies "to use any means possible" to bring the per petrators to justice.

"I am angered that the ene mies of Afghanistan have killed a brother and fellow Muslim in pursuit of their goal of disrupting reconstruction in Afghanistan," he said in a statement.

The U.S. Embassy said it was 'angered and saddened." The enemies of Afghanistan

are again trying to harm and intimidate those who are committed to helping Afghanistan," an embassy statement said. "This cowardly act will not deter

stand on its feet ' Orel had been shot six or

seven times in the head and torso, Kunar provincial police chief Mateullha Sofie said, add-ing that it appeared the kidnappers killed him so they could move faster and left his body high up a mountain as police moved in to try to capture them.

The kidnappers escaped, tak-ing advantage of the rugged, forested terrain, Sofie said.

The body was found around 7 a.m. by a search party of about 20-30 police and villagers, who then needed 2 ½ hours to carry it to lower ground, Sofie said. A helicopter was brought in to evacuate the body. It was not im-mediately clear where it was being taken.

The driver and interpreter, freed before dawn, reported that 12 armed men in military-style uniforms stopped their car late Tuesday afternoon as they traveled from the road project in Kunar province to the city of Jalalabad, where they'd been staying.

Police found the car abandoned.

The kidnappers later exchanged gunfire with police manning a nearby security post on the road, and one police officer was wounded, Jumbesh said. Security, particularly in the

countryside, is one of Karzai's top priorities ahead of parliamentary elections in the spring.

In March, Afghan forces freed two kidnapped Turkish en-gineers and an Afghan translator in a shootout with that left their two captors dead and two Afghan soldiers injured. Anoth-er Turkish engineer and an Afghan soldier were killed during the abduction a week earlier on the road from Kabul to the tur-bulent south.

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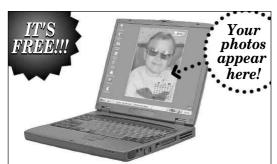
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U.S. offers limited talks with N. Korea

By Barry Schweid The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States is willing to hold limited face-to-face talks with North Korea and will continue to help feed the country, but it will not sweeten a proposed trade of economic concessions for a halt in development of nuclear weapons, the U.S. ambassador to South Korea said Wednesday.

Maintaining a tough line, Ambassador Christopher Hill said, "They have to come to the table and respond to the proposal," which includes guarantees the United States will not invade North Korea

Hill also stressed that any di-

Korea would be conducted only under the umbrella of the six-country format the Bush administration set up, in contrast to the Clinton administration's

one-on-one negotiations.

"We are prepared to talk to North Korea as part of the six-party process," Hill said at the Asia Society, "but we are not prepared to undermine the six-party process" that includes China, South Korea, Japan and Russia in the talks.

So far, the Bush administration's persistence in using diplomacy to solve a nuclear weapons crisis with North Korea is coming up short as Pyongyang refuses to make good on its pledge to resume talks.

Bush pledges to work for a strong-dollar policy

BY TERENCE HUNT The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - President Bush pledged Wednesday to work with Congress to reduce the United States' huge deficits to assure markets that his administration supports a strong dollar.

"The policy of my government is a strong-dollar policy," Bush said during an Oval Office meeting with Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

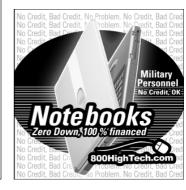
Bush, during a photo opportunity in the Oval Office, expressed confidence about resolving bitter differences between Israel and the Palestinians. "I think there's a very good chance we can achieve that peace," Bush said. "I look forward to working toward that end.

The president also issued a warning to Iran and Syria, saying that "meddling in the internal affairs of Iraq is not in their interest." Iraq's defense minister ac-cused neighboring Iran and Syria of supporting terrorists in country and charged that a senior Iraqi Shiite was leading a "pro-Iranian" coalition into next month's national elections.

Berlusconi expressed appreciation "that America has taken on the responsibility of defending and spreading peace and democ racy all over the world.'

The Italian premier defied strong public opposition when he decided to send about 3,000 troops to Iraq after the ouster of Saddam Hussein. That's the third-largest contingent after the United States and Britain.

"We agree on the fact that we have to continue the fight and the war on terror together," Berlusconi said. "And we agreed on the fact that it is now the appropriate time to solve the Middle East



Ridge: Reconsider scale

SAN DIEGO -Outgoing Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said Tuesday that the government should reconsider how it warns people about security threats, conceding that its color-coded scale has invited "questions and even occasional

Ridge, who plans to step down after President Bush names a successor, defended the color-coded warnings but said the public may want more specifics when the threat level is changed.

Sprint buys Nextel

NEW YORK - Telecommunications giant Sprint Corp. is acquiring Nextel Communications Inc. in a \$35 billion deal that would create the nation's third largest wireless telephone service provider.

The transaction announced Wednesday, would create a company called Sprint Nextel with about \$40 billion in combined yearly revenue and more than 35 million wireless subscribers, trailing only Cingular Wireless and Verizon

The companies estimated the merger would save them \$12 billion in operating costs and network upgrades.

Missile test fails

WASHINGTON - An intercen-

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tor missile failed to launch early Wednesday in what was to have been the first full flight test of the U.S. national missile defense system in nearly two years.

The Missile Defense Agency has attempted to conduct the test several times this month, but scrubbed each one for a variety of reasons, including various weather problems.

An announcement said the interceptor experienced an automatic shutdown "due to an un-known anomaly."

Anthrax attack study

NEW YORK - Giving a

new-generation anthrax vaccine along with antibiotics in response to a terrorist attack wouldn't prevent much disease, but it could help by letting people take the medicines for a briefer time, a

U.S. study suggests. In fact, it would make more sense to use an anthray vaccine after an attack than to try to carry out mass vaccination beforehand, said Ron Brookmeyer of Johns Hopkins University, lead author of the study.

The computerized analysis of the role of an anthrax vaccine is presented in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature.

Slain guitarist mourned

ARLINGTON. Texas - The smoke was thick the music loud The rum and the bourbon flowed.

and so did the tears.

Guitar-shaped funeral wreaths lined the stage as thousands of grieving fans, many wearing concert T-shirts, gathered Tuesday night to remember slain rock star 'Dimebag" Darrell Abbott.

The 38-year-old Abbott - best known as the former guitarist for Pantera - was shot to death last week in Columbus, Ohio, while performing with his new band, Damageplan. The public memori-

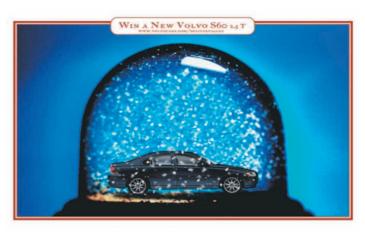
al service followed a private funeral Tuesday

High surf predictions

HONOLULU - Predictions of surf reaching as high as 50 feet during high tide on Oahu's North Shore had civil defense authorities on Tuesday preparing for the worst and surfing organizers preparing for a seldom-held big wave contest

A handful of beaches on Oahu were closed Tuesday, and Kauai County officials closed heaches on the Garden Isle's north shore as a precaution but expected them to reopen Wednesday.

From The Associated Pres:



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Marines get a grip on fast-rope skills

Training with AF parajumpers in Philippines adds to 'bag of tricks'

44It's good for

the Marines -

they get

to learn

somethina

new. The more

trainina

they aet.

the happier

they are.

Company, Combat

3rd Marine Division

BY JULIANA GITTLER

Stars and Strines

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines - A rope drops from the helicopter, and without a second's hesitation, the first of a succession of Marines jumps, sliding 20 to 30 feet to the

rotor-washed ground That's not the

time to figure out who goes where. To practice in-

sertion and forming a secure perimeter around an aircraft, Marines assigned to the Ouick Reaction Force for the current humanitarian mission in the Philippines rehearsed the orchestrated maneuvers from a unique aircraft Air Force HH-60G Pave

As part of the Joint Task Force helping deliver supplies to desper-

Hawk

ate communities in the Philippines, the Air Force brought three of the helicopters, similar to the Army's Black Hawk, to conduct search-and-rescue onerations if needed. When Marines and Air Force officials realized the training opportunity, they brought the Air Force aircraft and pararescue jumpers together with the Marines to train

"It's a different platform for us," said Marine Capt. Van Osborne, commander of the Combat

Engineer Compasault ippine Onick Force

engineer Marines, the training provided a first experience with fast-roping, grabbing onto a rope and sliding down without tethers. Only a steady grin with hands

Assault Battalion.

"It's another thing for our bag of tricks," said Sgt. Daniel Verduce, 4th Platoon Guide for the company. "It's good for the Marines - they get to learn something new. The more training

them

ny, Combat As-Battalion. 3rd Marine Division at Camp Schwab, Okinawa, and the Joint Task Force ground comcommander. His Marines are serving as the Philmission's Reaction For some of the

and feet senarated from a

Sgt. Daniel Verduce Air Force. Combat Engineer

"I was waiting all week for this," said Lance Cpl. Trevor Johnson with the Combat Engineer Company, who never before had been in a helicopter.

they get, the happier they are."

The Marines were excited to do

the training and to work with the

Despite an initial unease, courtesy of a small fear of heights, Johnson said he loved the experience. From the helicopter, he said, "everything looks really small."

He said the training helps the

current mission and could come in handy for him as a combat engineer should he ever need to drop into a battle. The Air Force

pararescue jumpers, from the 320th Special Tactics Squadron and the 31st Rescue Squadron from Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, provided training and assistance.

"They briefed us on how everything is going to work," he said. "They're very professional and that's how they were with us.'

Although the two services historically have enjoyed a healthy competitiveness, the Marines said they were eager to work with the parajumpers

"The P.Is are the best of the Air Force. It doesn't bother me in the least to work with the best of their service." Johnson said.

The joint training shows the potential for the two services to train together in the future. Oshorne said

"I think it's going to open up some training opportunities for us when we get back to Okinawa," he said.

E-mail Juliana Gittler at gittlerj@pstripes.osd.mil



during fast-rope training Wednesday in the Philippines. The Combat Assault Battalion is acting as the Quick Reaction Force to provide security during relief efforts in the Philippines.

Maintenance crew's long hours keep aging Phrogs hopping

BY JULIANA GITTLER Stars and Strings

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines - Flying up to nine hours a day carrying maximum loads to support relief efforts in the storm-ravaged Philippines could wreak havoc on the Marine Corps' 40-year-old CH-46E Sea Knights.

But a swarm of aircraft maintainers accompanying makes sure the strain doesn't stop the mission, working as much as 18 hours a day to keep the old birds aloft.

The helicopters, affectionately called Phrogs because they resemble frogs and are amphibious. carry food, clothing and medical supplies to remote communities pummeled by recent storms and mudslides

For every hour the aircraft flies, about 25 man-hours of maintenance is required. Each day. maintainers arrive to work by 4 a.m. to start the multitude of checks to ready the aircraft, and



Maintenance Marines of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262 perform an inspection of a CH-46E on Wednesday after a full day of flying supplies to relief centers south of Manila, Philippines.

in the evening they spend hours preparing them for the next day's mission

things are still flying," said Maj Karl Johnson, a pilot and opera-tions officer for Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262 from Fu-"It's just on the backs of the maintenance guys that these tenma Marine Corps Air Station

Some of the six helicopters

working in the Philippines have patch marks that aircraft records show are from where bullets hit them in Vietnam. They're older than almost everyone in the But the aircraft have proved

vital in moving supplies to remote communities for the Philippine government For the maintainers, the Philip

pines work is an opportunity to do what they're trained to do in a real-life mission, and to help, despite not being on the operation's front lines

"I'm not out handing out food to the people," said Cpl. Ryan Waltz, an airframer with the squadron. But by helping to keep the aircraft flying, "I play an important role in getting these people food."

Squadron leaders said they hope to get the maintainers out to see some of the damaged sites during their stay in the Philip-pines. "It's hard when you sit back and work, work, work and

never see the results," said Warrant Officer Emanuel Young, the maintenance and materiel control officer for the squadron.

Every evening as the aircraft return, maintainers are ready to deal with any repair, from replacing a small part to replacing a hydraulic wire, one of the biggest challenges they might face, Waltz said. They also do routine tune-ups and overhauls.

The aircraft are some of the Marine Corps' oldest, but they're suited for the widest range of missions, from their primary one of moving Marines to the current operation carrying relief aid. Young

For all their hours flying, the personnel behind them is what keeps them going.

"They're able to maintain the aircraft so well, they're able to extend the life of it," he said. "It's really effective maintenance, because it's operating."

E-mail Juliana Gittler at: gittlerj@pstripes.osd.mil

Adoption reality show appalls some viewers

BY DAVID BAUDER The Associated Press

NEW YORK - The Fox network said Tuesday it will air a special next month, "Who's Your Daddy?", where a daughter given up for adoption as an infant attempts to guess the identity of her birth father for a \$100 000 prize

Adoption activists immediately attacked the special, which will air for 90 minutes

"This is really perverse," said Adam Pertman, executive director of the Evan P. Donaldson Adoption Institute, a research and policy organization. "It takes a deeply personal and important experience and turns it into a money-grubbing game show. I think it is despicable.

A Fox network spokesman would not comment on the special, referring all calls to the producers, who said people shouldn't judge before watching.

"I find it curious that people are calling it that without having seen an episode, said Scott Hallock, one of three executive producers of the series for the Fox Televi-

"You might get the impression from the title that it is somehow salacious or exploitive. But nothing could be further from the

The woman who is the focus of the show,

not identified by Fox, and her birth father were both involved in simultaneous searches for each other.

Her natural dad will be one of eight men presented to her, all claiming to be her fa-

She will be given opportunities to observe and interview the men to narrow the field, the network announced

If she correctly guesses which man is her father, the woman can win as much as \$100,000. If she is incorrect, the imposter that she chose will win the money, Fox

Either way, the special will end with the father and daughter being reunited.

USS Kitty Hawk group U.S., Iraqis gather

may be heading home

Joseph Kroll, executive director of the

STARS STRIPES

North American Council on Adoptable Children, called the idea "repulsive." He said his own 29-year-old daughter is

searching for her birth father. If someone were to try doing that to my daughter, what I consider to be abuse, I would not behave appropriately," Kroll

Producers have already filmed six "Who's Your Daddy?" episodes, although Fox has only scheduled one of them for air at this point. Hallock said participants were sought through ads that made it clear the solicitation was part of a TV produc-

All the participants felt it was a positive experience, said Kevin Healey, another executive producer

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Charles Barkley makes a Supreme Court visit

BY GINA HOLLAND

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court's solemn atmosphere was broken Tuesday as usually subdued workers snapped to attention, riveted by a guest in the cafeteria.

What legal giant could create such a scene? None — it was former basketball star Charles Barkley, who stopped by to visit an old

friend, Justice Clarence Thomas. Barkley patiently posed for pictures and signed autographs for giddy court employees.

The notoriously outspoken Barkley, considered a possible candidate for Alabama governor someday, was polite and politician-

Famous people are often spotted in the court, ranging from the justices themselves to wellknown lawyers and big-name television journalists. None got the rock-star treatment of Barkley.

The nearly 6-foot-5 former forward - who played for Philadelphia, Phoenix and Houston before retiring in 1999 — was sprawled at a table just a few feet from the cafeteria checkout for a half-hour or so while word spread through the Supreme Court building and the crowd of admirers

Barkley, a member of the origi nal U.S. Olympic basketball "Dream Team" in 1992 who in 1996 was named one of the National Basketball Association's 50 greatest players, accommodated his fans before heading upstairs to Thomas' office.

Barkley and Thomas are both from the South — Barkley comes from Alabama and Thomas from Georgia - and share a passion for basketball.

A basketball court is located in a secluded area on the Supreme Court building's top floor. It's not listed in tourist information and is closed to visitors

Known informally as the "high-est court in the land," it is used for games between law clerks and court employees - and, occasionally, justices

Thomas has not been a regular player since tearing his Achilles tendon during a game on the court. Barkley can sympathize He ruptured a knee tendon in

Evolution in schools

going back to court Knight Ridder Newspapers

HARRISBURG, Pa. -80 years after the trial of Tennessee biology teacher John Scopes launched the landmark battle between science and religion, a lawsuit filed in Pennsylvania on Tuesday might reopen national debate over the teaching of evolution.

Two civil liberties groups, representing 11 parents in a community 25 miles southwest of here. sued the Dover Area School District seeking to block its introduction next month of "intelligent design" in the science curriculum.

The suit, which contends that the teaching of intelligent design violates the constitutional separation of church and state, is believed to be the first of its kind.

The intelligent design theory. first advanced in the late 1980s. holds that the universe is so com plex that a supernatural force must be at work.

The suit, filed in U.S. District Court by the ACLU of Pennsylva-nia and Americans United for the Separation of Church and State argues that intelligent design is "neither scientific nor a theory in the scientific sense; it is an inher-

ently religious argument."

In October, the Dover school board voted to require ninth-grade biology teachers to read a statement that Darwin's theory, that life evolved through a profact" and that "gaps in the theory exist for which there is no evidence." The directive is sched uled to go into effect in January



Carlton blazes own path to musical glory

BY NEKESA MUMBI MOODY

The Associated Press

NEW YORK

t's hard to imagine a more pop debut than Vanessa Carl-

Her piano-infused "A Thousand Miles" became an anthem of 2002, garnered her three Grammy nominations and helped her sell more than 2 million copies of "Be Not Nobody," her first

But as she releases her sopho-more set, "Harmonium," Carlton prefers to define herself as out of the mainstream

"I am kind of an alternative to kind of the very popular hip-hop stuff and other really mainstream pop artists," says the 24-year-old singer-songwriter sitting in a studio at New York's famed Hits Factory. "I'm an alternative to the Simpson girls.

Carlton has done well by defining herself as the alternative to commercialize pop; with her first album, the brunette was cast as one of the emerging anti-Britneys - female artists who write their own material, play their own instruments and reject the role of pop's oversexed vixen.

Carlton hopes to cast herself next as a career artist, instead of the hot singer of the moment.

O: You were among a rising group of female singer-songwriters considered an alternative to Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera. Do you feel you were lumped in with other artists?

A: I did, but I thought that the trend of that time probably helped propel me forward.

When you're part of a trend, it tends to be easier to kind of break

through, and at this point now I'm just kind of standing on my own and it feels nice to be one of the few people that are doing what I am attempting to do.

I'm not really scared by it at all. To walk the bold path is not something that I'm afraid of, and if I'm releasing a song to radio and it's the only song on radio that sounds that way, that to me is a plus as opposed to me being concerned that I'm not fitting a preconceived mold.

Q: You say this record is more serious - why?

A: It's a darker-themed album. (When) you're a writer and you're 16 and 17 years old, you kind of like go through a diary stage where you're kind of mostly narcissistic and dealing with yourself, and writing for me is a very selfish thing, where as it's solely about comforting myself.

And just as you grow up, you kind of start to absorb your environment in a different way, you develop a different perspective.

O: What was the whirlwind like when you were nominated for the Grammys?

A: It kind of went over my head ... It was almost too easy.

I was working for years and suddenly it came, and as much as someone could say, "You worked for four years, five years, and it all comes and it feels so good" it's all going at such a fast pace that it doesn't feel easy, it just feels like it's whipping through your fingers as it's happening and there's no real way to absorb it or appreciate it, and that was really what was happening.

Now I don't think it would be like that. (But) the Grammys to me was dealing with the battery



Singer Vanessa Carlton poses at the Hit Factory music studios in New York.

pack strapped around my leg, making sure I could hear my vocal and the piano at the same

O: Did vou enjoy it? A: Being at the actual Gram-

mys? No. I enjoyed the attention but it's one of the most stressful awards. I couldn't even get a cun of water backstage

Q: Do you think this album is more of a mature record?

A: I think the album is a reflection of a more womanly point of view on the world. There was something kind of innocent and girlish about the first record. ... But with that said, I tend to have a very wholesome image. I don't really strip or do anything like that. Q: You haven't done the

Maxim layout? A: (laughs) No, and I don't have

a desire to, because the bottom line is I feel womanly and sexy and confident I feel like taking off all of your clothes [is] doing it to get attention from men, and I don't feel like I need to fight for it.

I feel sexy in pajamas, I think as a woman growing up in this society, it's really easy, dangerously easy, to kind of fall into the trap pings of what your image should be, how you should look.

The expectation for women has gotten about out of hand. I try to separate myself from the whole thing.

Q: How do you not fall into that? So many women have vowed to never do it, and then a few months later they're showing skin.

A: Well, I think that I'm perfectly happy that my brain is bigger than my boobs, and that's quite all right with me

There's a pressure to stay thin and pretty, but I don't feel a pressure to be naked or get a boob job or anything like that. I'm sure I would sell more records ... but I couldn't care less. I have friends and family and a boyfriend, and I don't have to prove myself to any-

And with that said, I definitely have one of the better [behinds] in the music industry, and no one will see it because I'm sitting at



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Elton John calls in sick for concert

Singer Elton John canceled a second British concert because of a throat infection. John, 57, blamed the infec-



tion for the cancellation of his planned show Sunday at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Center in Glasgow - the fourth concert in a tour of Britain. Two nights earlier, he had canceled a concert in Notting-"I've been doing all that I can

to try to get my voice back and I've seen a throat specialist again today and he's advised that it would be foolish to go ahead with tonight's show," John said in a state-

Earlier this month, the rock legend was honored with a star-studded tribute at the Kennedy Center.

Bob Marley for Jamaica's No. 1 hero

He's received countless musical accolades, inspired millions with his message of "one love" and is even hailed as a prophet by some

Now, members of Bob Marley's estate are lobbying the government to proclaim the dreadlocked reggae singer a national hero, Jamaica's highest honor.

Marley died of cancer in Miami in 1981 at 36, and

some of his family members have lived in South



"Anywhere you go in the world the first thing people think of when they hear Jamaica is Bob Marley," said Jacque-

"He has inspired so many people with his songs so it's time for us to step up and take Bob's recognition to a higher level.

Marley

The foundation is also seeking to have his birthday - Feb. declared a national holiday.

Only seven Jamaicans have been named national heroes, including black civil rights leader Marcus Garvey and former Prime Minister Alexander Bus-

Country singer recovering

Veteran country singer Little Jimmy Dickens has been released from a hospital where he was treated for pneumonia.

A Grand Ole Opry spokeswoman said Dickens was discharged after nearly a week and sent home with orders to rest. He will turn 84 Sunday.

His hits include "May the Bird of Paradise Fly Up "A-Sleepin' at the Foot of the Bed" and "Out Behind the Barn." Stories and photos from The Asso-

Blockbuster to end late fees in 2005

Movie giant to offer grace period, then charge full purchasing price

BY DAVID KOENIG The Associated Press

DALLAS - Blockbuster Inc. the nation's biggest movie rental company, says it will eliminate late fees on games and movies as of Jan. 1 — but if you keep them too long, you buy them.

The offer announced Tuesday suggests that Blockbuster is still struggling to blunt the competitive threat from NetFlix Inc. and cable

The company had expected to earn \$250 million to \$300 million in operating profits next year from its unpopular late fees but believes it can make up for the lost income with increased volume - betting that customers, no longer worried about late fees. will rent more movies and games.

"We had to deal with late fees, said chairman and chief execu-tive John Antioco. "It's the source of jokes on late-night TV. It's still anecdotally, and in some sense really, the biggest negative to Block-buster ... There were customer transactions that never happened because of late fees '

Blockbuster shares rose 40 cents, or 4.6 percent, to close at \$9.20 on the New York Stock Exchange. That is near the lower end of their 52-week trading range of \$6.50 to \$19.37

Blockbuster faces new competi tion on several fronts - chean DVDs in discount stores, mail-delivery service from Netflix, and movies on demand from cable TV operators - none of which come with late fees. Dallas-based Blockbuster said it tested dropping late fees in several cities over the past year and found that retail sales of

movies increased. Blockbuster customer Susan Murray, who raced to a Dallas store just before noon Tuesday to avoid a charge, welcomed the planned elimination of late fees Murray said she gets dinged a late fee almost every time she rents — \$11.50 for two movies last week alone - including occasions when she was sure she had beat the deadline.

"I was going to cancel (Block-buster) and get Netflix," Murray said. "I decided a couple days ago that was it. Now I'll have to recon-

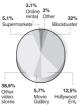
But rivals claimed that Blockbuster wasn't really eliminating late fees, only giving customers more time before incurring even larger payments.

Blockbuster said due dates at its 4,500 U.S. stores would remain one week for games and two days or one week for movies. The com

Video rental market

Blockhuster announced Tuesday that it will eliminate late fees on in-store rentals as of Jan. 1. In 2003 Blockbuster controlled 32 percent of the video rental market.

2003 video rental market share



SOURCE: "The Future of Video Rental: A Strategic Analysis", Adams Media Research

stores

nany said it would give customers a one-week grace period at no charge, starting on New Year's

Renters who keep the movies or games beyond the grace period will be charged for purchasing the DVD or tape at Blockbuster's full retail price, minus the rental fee, the company said. If they return the movie or game in the next 30 days, they will get a refund for the purchase but will be charged a restocking fee of \$1.25, the company said.

Reed Hastings, CEO of Los Gatos, Calif.-based Netflix, said Blockbuster's move would back fire because of the potential of being charged for purchasing a late DVD.

Failed brakes halt confidence in car

You guys really make me laugh. So now you know that one other person is out there laugh ing with you! I have a 2003 Wind star with about 16K miles. Last Saturday, my wife took my car to watch the Mummers parade in North Wildwood, N.J. As she approached a stop sign, the brakes failed her. The pedal went to the floor. She was not going very fast and was able to bring the car to a stop without

hitting any-thing. She immediately turned the car off and

Click and Clack

the brakes returned (the nedal returned to its normal position and the brakes worked). The brakes have been working normally ever since. I checked under the hood, saw no leaks, and the mas ter-cylinder reservoir was full The brake pads look good. We took it to a Ford dealership (they kept it for a day), and the mechan ic said that the brakes were OK that he made an adjustment in the hydraulics. Tom and Ray, now I have lost confidence in th brakes. Any suggestions? Should I expect failure again? Should I heating the brake fluid. If that's trade it in? Could it be a bad mas ter cylinder or anti-lock-brake system? How can I ever have con fidence in the brakes again? replaced.

TOM: You can't, Gene. At least not until somebody gives you a credible explanation for why they failed. No one has done that yet.

RAY: There is no "adjustment" you can make to the hydraulics, so he was just trying to get rid of you with that one

TOM: I can think of a few possible explanations for what hap The most likely is that pened. your wife accidentally drove all the way to the Mummers parade with the parking brake applied or, more likely, partially applied That would mean that the brakes were being applied the whole time she was driving, even though her foot wasn't on the brake pedal. That overheated the which boiled the brake fluid, which led to the brake failthe engine and let things cool down, the brakes returned to normal. And we would assume that after that, she released the park-

ing brake. TOM: How do you prove that's what happened? I guess you have to put her under the klieg lights

and interrogate her RAY: Actually, you might do better just asking her whether it's

possible. You said it was your car she was driving, and this is something any person

can easily do in an unfamiliar vehicle. In fact, I recently drove halfway to Montreal with the parking brake partially applied in one of our brand-new test cars. I won't mention whose car it

was, because I don't want Chrysler on our case again! TOM: A related cause of intermittent brake failure is a faulty power-brake booster. That creates a situation similar to leaving the parking brake on. It fails to release the brakes entirely. So, it also causes brake failure by over-

the case, it could happen again. RAY: If it's not either of those then it's probably a bad master cylinder, which would need to be

TOM: So, unless your wife fesses up to perhaps having seen the "parking brake" light on when she was driving that day, take the Windstar back to the dealer, talk to the manager of the service department and tell him that you need a more definitive explanation before you can confidently drive this van any more.

RAY: Ask him to keep it and drive it home for a few days. Tell him to take his family out in it and see if he can get the problem to recur. If you notice a sudden deer-in-the-headlights look when you make this suggestion, you'll know you've made your point Good luck, Gene.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newsnaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of cars.com on the World Wide Web. Distributed by King Features Syndicate Inc.

TUESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

| | Indexes | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| 52- High | week Low | Name | Last | Net Chg | Chg | % Chg | 52-wk % Chg | | | | |
| 10,753.63 3,748,05 | 9,708.40 | Dow Jones Industrials Dow Jones Transportation | 10,676.45 3,757.03 | +38.13 +32.07 | +.36 +.86 | +2.13 +24.94 | +5.40 | | | | |
| 335.20 7.108.61 | 254.11 6.171.85 | Dow Jones Utilities NYSE Composite | 325.70 7.124.61 | +.67 | +.21 +.31 | +22.03 +10.63 | +27.39 | | | | |
| 1,417.41 2,164,63 | 1,118.28 | Amex Index Nasdag Composite | 1,404.23 2,159.84 | +5.18 +11.34 | +.37 +.53 | +19.66 +7.81 | +24.34 | | | | |
| 1,198.77 646.34 | 1,060.72 | S&P 500 S&P MidCan | 1,203.38 651.83 | +4.70 +6.03 | +.39 +.93 | +8.23 | +11.93 | | | | |
| 644.84 11.791.70 | 515.90 10.268.52 | Russell 2000 DJ Wilshire 5000 | 643.54 11.845.23 | +5.51 | +.86 | +15.56 | +19.67 | | | | |
| 11,131.10 | NIVEE | | 11,043.13 | 13434 | | 200 | 123,44 | | | | |

| | NYS | Ε | | | Аме | | | Nasdaq | | | | |
|------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|---------------------------|----------|-------|-------|--|
| Most | ACTIVE | (\$1 or | MORE) | Most | ACTIVE | (\$1 or | MORE) | MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE) | | | | |
| Name | Vol (00) | Last | Chg | Name | Vol (00) | Last | Chg | Name | Vol (00) | Last | Chg | |
| Lucent | 730360 | 3.64 | 07 | SPDR | 399096 | 120.79 | +.42 | Microsoft | 1225667 | 27.23 | 02 | |
| SprintFON | 620240 | 25.10 | +.66 | SemiHTr | 268230 | 33.35 | +.77 | SiriusS | 942384 | 7.95 | 09 | |
| TimeWarn | 331371 | 19.38 | +.45 | DJIA Diam | 57554 | 105.74 | +.29 | Nasd100Tr | 877646 | 40.48 | +.20 | |
| Pfizer | 330756 | 27.33 | +.17 | iShRs2000 | 49215 | 128.27 | +.69 | Oracle | 780222 | 14.23 | 40 | |
| GenElec | 262573 | 37.38 | 10 | iShJapan | 38829 | 10.20 | +.04 | Intel | 755064 | 23.24 | +.61 | |
| Motorola | 206313 | 16.85 | 30 | WheatR o | 26276 | 3.31 | 03 | Symantec: | | 27.45 | -5.41 | |
| NortelN If | 172498 | 3.69 | 09 | SP Engy | 24114 | 36.29 | +.11 | NextelC | 608546 | 29.99 | - | |
| Merck | 169032 | 29.62 | +.57 | BemaGold | 23445 | 3.06 | 07 | Cisco | 497389 | 19.28 | +.01 | |
| Citiero | 143970 | 46.87 | +.10 | IvaxCo s | 22737 | 16.39 | +.39 | Veritas | 422691 | 27.38 | +2.19 | |
| Agere | 140711 | 1.33 | 03 | UltraPt g | 22724 | 50.70 | +3.95 | SunMicro | 414560 | 5.34 | 04 | |

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS

| Alliant Technosystem | | 17 | 66.61 | +.16 | +15.3 |
|----------------------|------|----|--------|-------|-------|
| Armor Holdings | | 31 | 46.79 | +.55 | +77.8 |
| Boeing | 1.00 | 15 | 52.64 | 03 | +24.9 |
| Computer Sciences | | 19 | 57.17 | - 08 | +29.3 |
| Findingered Sun Sys | .04 | | 57.43 | +2,48 | +4.3 |
| General Dynamics | 1.44 | 18 | 107.09 | 60 | +18.5 |
| General Flectric | .88 | 24 | 37.38 | - 10 | +20.7 |
| Hallihurton | .50 | | 39.57 | +.73 | +52.2 |
| | -30 | - | | 7.13 | +69.0 |
| Harris Corp. | .48 | 29 | 64.14 | +.66 | |
| Allied Signal | .83 | 22 | 36.40 | 05 | +8.9 |
| L-3 Communications | .40 | 22 | 75.00 | +.15 | +46.0 |
| Lockheed Martin | 1.00 | 22 | 59.71 | 69 | +16.2 |
| NorthrpG s | .92 | 20 | 56.95 | +.15 | +19.1 |
| Raytheon | .80 | 45 | 39.60 | 12 | +31.8 |
| Rockwell Intl | .66 | 22 | 46.77 | +.21 | +31.4 |
| Segua Corp. | | 37 | 60.79 | - 20 | +24.1 |
| Texas Instruments | .10 | 24 | 24.34 | +.65 | -17.2 |
| | -10 | | | | |
| Textron Inc. | 1.40 | 32 | 73.75 | +.15 | +29.2 |
| United Technologies | 1.40 | 19 | 103.00 | +.13 | +8.7 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| Fidelity Invest: Groinc | 38.52 | +.11 | +9.4 |
|-----------------------------|-------|------|-------|
| Fidelity Invest: GroCo | 55.58 | +.22 | +11.0 |
| Amer Century Inv: Ultra | 29.34 | +.16 | +10.1 |
| Fidelity Spartan: Egldx | 42.52 | +.16 | +9.8 |
| Putnam Funds A: GrinA p | 19.20 | +.07 | +9.8 |
| Fidelity Invest: A Mor | 16.26 | +.04 | +4.7 |
| Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA | 33.64 | +.26 | +11.3 |
| AIM Investments A: Const p | 22,70 | +.09 | +5.5 |
| Fidelity Invest: USBI | 11.21 | +.01 | +4.5 |
| Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea | 34.20 | +.05 | +9.8 |
| Fidelity Advisor T: GrOopT | 30.31 | +.08 | +6.1 |
| Fidelity Advisor T: EgInT | 28.51 | +.15 | +10.7 |
| Scudder Funds S: GroineS | 21.88 | +.05 | +9.1 |
| Putnam Funds A: GlbEcty p | 8.22 | +.03 | +10.2 |
| AJM Investments A: WeingA p | 12.95 | +.03 | +7.2 |
| AIM Investments A: ChartA p | 12.80 | +.10 | +7.7 |
| Merrill Lynch I: BalCapl | 28.18 | +.09 | +7.5 |
| Scudder Funds S: Intl FdS | 43.11 | +.01 | +12.3 |
| Fidelity Advisor T: OvrseaT | 17.16 | +.02 | +9.1 |
| Lord Abbett A: DevGtA p | 15.72 | +.10 | +4.8 |
| Scudder Funds S: Income S x | 13.00 | 03 | +5.3 |
| Merrill Lynch I: USGvtMtg | 10.33 | | +3.4 |
| Scudder Funds S: Devel | 19.27 | +.10 | +2.3 |
| Putnam Funds A: GlGvA p | 13.14 | 02 | +8.3 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

EXCHANGE RATES

| Military rates |
|---|
| Japanese yen (Dec. 16)102.00 |
| South Korean won (Dec. 15)1.029.00 |
| Euro costs (Dec. 15)\$1,3667 |
| Dollar costs (Dec. 15)€0.7317 |
| Commercial rates |
| Bahrain (Dinar) |
| British pound\$1,9283 |
| Canada (Dollar)1.2356 |
| Denmark (Krone)5.5807 |
| Egypt (Pound)6.2251 |
| |
| Hong Kong (Dollar)7.7743 |
| Hungary (Forint)186.50 |
| Iceland (Krona)63.245 |
| Israel (Shekel)4.3497 |
| Japan (Yen)105.40 |
| Kuwait (Dinar) |
| Norway (Krone)6.1556 |
| Philippines (Peso)56.27 |
| Saudi Arabia (Riyal)3.7497 |
| Singapore (Dollar)1.651 |
| South Korea (Won)1,058.10 |
| Switzerland (Franc)1.1539 |
| Thailand (Baht)39.43 |
| Turkey (Lira) |
| (Military exchange rates are those |
| available to customers at military bank- |
| ing facilities in the country of issuance |

ing facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea. Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. Netherlands and the United Kingdom. (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are inter-buying currences to one dollar, except for the countries of the countrie

PRECIOUS METALS

INTEREST RATES

| Prime rate5.0 |
|--|
| Discount rate3.2 |
| Federal funds market rate2.2 |
| 3-month bill2.2 |
| 30-year bond4.7 |
| Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of |
| |

ents and Sensibility

Turning on the heat

BY NANCY DUNNAN

The cost of heating fuel is going up again this winter - by more than 25%, according to some experts.

Most utility companies pub-

lish energy savings suggestions check with yours by calling the consumer hot line. Others offer cash to customers who install efficiency equipment and weather stripping.

For a list of programs, check out the Web site of The Edison

Electric Institute, the electric utilities trade group, www.eei.org/wiseuse.

Financial adviser, economist and security analyst Nancy Dunnan is the author of "How to Invest \$50 to \$5,000." She writes a weekly column for theonlineinvestor.com

FRIDAY EVENING / DECEMBER 17, 2004

| ГГ | IIDA | Y EVEINI | NG / DE | CEMBE | ER 17, 2 | 004 | | | | | MO | /IES | SPORTS |
|----|----------------|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| | J | 6PM | 6:30 | 7PM | 7:30 | 8PM | 8:30 | 9PM | 9:30 | 10PM | 10:30 | 11PM | 11:30 |
| 6 | AFN-P | •ESPNews | Pacific Report | King of the Hill "Hank's Back" Hank tries yoga. (CC) | That '70s Show "Christmas" The guys go back to school. (CC) | The Apprentice (C | C) | | | Pacific Report | The Tonight Show | (CC) | Late Show (CC) |
| 7 | AFN-ATL | (5:46) Oprah Win- frey (CC) | (:35) Guiding Light | (CC) | (:17) General Hos- pital (CC) | Headline News | Judge Judy (CC) | Today (CC) | | | | Teacher's Pet (EI) (CC) | What's New Scoo- by-Doo? |
| 8 | NEWS | Hardball With Chris | Matthews | The O'Reilly Facto | | Primetime Thursda | By (CC) | Fox and Friends | | Fox and Friends | | American Morning | |
| 9 | SPORTS | •(5:00) College Bar at Texas Tech. (Tape | sketball Ohio State | SportsCenter | | NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at Hills, Mich | | t Detroit Pistons. Fro | m the Palace of Aubu | urn Hills in Auburn | SportsCenter | | ONFL Total Ac- |
| 10 | SPEC | The Simpsons A | Everybody Loves Raymond Ally be- comes a bully. | Charmed "Spin City kidnaps and cocoor Chris into a spider. | /"The Spider Demon ns Piper and turns (CC) | Boston Public "Ch Ronnie catches a s act; two girls chat o | tudent in a criminal | Blue Planet: Seas of Life "Frozen Seas" Animals living in bitterly cold cli- mates. (CC) | | Friends Ross' lunch notes cause concern. (CC) | Seinfeld A trip to India for a wedding. (CC) | The Daily Show (CC) | Blind Date (CC) |
| | | SpongeBob | Rugrats (CC) | All Grown Up | Dave-Barbarian | Jimmy Neutron | Drake & Josh | That's So Raven | Sabrina-Witch | Switched! (CC) | Radio-Roscoe Attractions | The Cosby Show ** "Dumb & Dum | |
| 14 | AFN-MOV TMC | (:15) * * % "For Kee | Ent. Tonight ps" (1988, Drama) I minded high-school | Molly Ringwald, Rand senior becomes preg | Drama) Rachel York, dall Batinkoff, Ken- gnant. 'PG-13' (CC) | *x "World Traveler Moore. Premiere. A | r" (2001, Drama) Bill man leaves his famil titled-English) 'R' (CC | y Crudup, Julianne ly for a road trip of | ie's Angels" (2000) (:45) **** "The l Hurt. A funeral reun | Big Chill" (1983, Dr. | | Glenn Close, William | |
| 24 | PBS | Dragon Tales Zoom Game sho "Room for Change" (EI) (CC) (DVS) | | The NewsHour Wit | th Jim Lehrer (N) | Washington Week (N) (CC) | Wall Street Week With Fortune (N) | Now With Bill Moy Attorney General E | ers New York State iot Spitzer. (N) (CC) | Tucker Carlson: Unfiltered (N) (CC) | Journal Editorial Report (N) (CC) | Charlie Rose (N) (| |
| 25 | SHOW | (:15) **» "Barbershop" (2002, Com y the Entertainer. A barbershop owner of (CC) | | ly) Ice Cube, Anthony siders selling his est | y Anderson, Cedric ablishment. 'PG-13' | Campbell, Sam She | n" (2004, Suspense) epard. Premiere. A m ill the president. 'R' (0 | an thinks he is in- | (:45) *** "Tombs Earp and Doc Holic | tone" (1993, Wester lay battle the Clanton | m) Kurt Russell, Val I n gang. 'R' (CC) | Kilmer, Michael Biehr | n. Premiere. Wyatt |
| 27 | A&E | City Confidential "Fresno: Fatal Inher tance" A California businessman and two family members are slain. | | suspect. (CC) | "Vanished" A woman s spotted talking to a | Biography 'Rob Re (N) (CC) | | Rob Reiner's cheek | y adaptation of the W | filiam Goldman nove | andy Patinkin, Chris al. (CC) | Sarandon. Premiere. | American Justice "The Jonestown Massacre" (CC) |
| 28 | DISC | | | To Be Announced | | Africa's Great Rivers | Africa's Great Rivers | Wild and Dangero | | To Be Announced | | To Be Announced | |
| 29 | TFC | | | Bida SI Mister, Bid | | (:05) Insider | Dong Puno Live | | Balitang America (In Tagalog) | Morning Star | (:40) Masayang Tai | | |
| 30 | CNN-I | Larry King Live (Co | 0) | CNNI World News | World Sport | Business Internati | ional | Asia Tonight | Biz Asia | CNNI World News | ●World Sport | Biz Asia | The Music Room |
| 31 | GOLF | U.S. Open Golf Hi wins the 2003 U.S. 0 | ghlights Jim Furyk Open. | ●Big Break | | L. L. | | Golf Central Academy | | Golf Central Academy Golf Central | | European PGA G Third Round. From | n Majorca, Spain. |
| 32 | TLC | Clean Sweep 'Yours, Mine & Finally | | In a Fix "Moroccan is created. (CC) | | Cluttered rooms. | | | Tish" (N) (CC) | the punk look. (CC) | 'Misti' A woman into | Clean Sweep "Brin Cluttered rooms. | gin' It All Into Focus' |
| 34 | TOON | Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends | | | Teen Titans | Powerpuff Girls! | | | Looney Tunes | I Am Weasel | Sheep in the Big City | Detective Squad | |
| 35 | ANPL | The Crocodile Hun face-to-face with a k world's largest lizard | omodo dragon, the I. (CC) | pire bats; the Komo | do dragon. (CC) | | | abandoned house; pies. (CC) | a man sells sick pup- | er; 11-foot snake. (1 | s; negligent dog own- V) | Venom ER A sidew more serious than t | hought at first. (CC) |
| 36 | сом | 100 Greatest Stand (CC) | I-Ups (Part 5 of 5) | The Daily Show Stephen King. (CC) | "Free Willy" spawn r scends species. (CC | omance that tran- (b) Up Dwayne Kennedy. (N) (CC) | | Comedy Central Presents Arj Bark- er performs. (CC) (CC) Be the Creature "Japanese Macaque" | | Premium Blend Maz Jobrani; Matt Bearden. (N) (CC) | Comedy Central Presents Comic Greg Giraldo. (CC) | Comedy Central Presents Arnez J. (CC) | Comedy Central Presents Patrice O'Neal. (CC) |
| 40 | NGC-A | Cyclone! World's Wildest Po | lias Midaaa (CC) | Snake Wranglers Swimming with deadly snakes. | "Lizard Kings" | | | Macaques in the snowy mountains of Japan. | | Madagascar Mystery Scientists explor the complex ecosystem of Madagascar - CSI: Crime Scene Investigation "Stali | | Seconds From Dis Chernobyl' Explosion CSI: Crime Scene | on at reactor. |
| 42 | SPIKE | | () | nious Monk" (CC) | | ing the Bus' (CC) | | Untold "Darryl Strawberry" Darryl Straw- berry. (N) | | er" (CC) | | in the Cradle" (CC) | |
| 43 | FOX | Remington Steele | | St. Elsewhere (CC) | | | Quintuplets Penny directs a school play. (CC) | Show "Road to Tra- dition" | The Bernie Mac Show "Tryptophan- tasy" | The Fox Report With Shepard Smith (CC) | | The Bob Newhart Show "Last TV Show" | Show "Motel" |
| 44 | BET | | Top 10 Live T.L perfo | | BET.com Count- down LL Cool J. | Based on the life st | rd" (2000, Biography ory of the rock 'n' roll | music icon. | | Club Comic View I Comic: Alex Thoma | s' | BET Nightly News (CC) | |
| 46 | COURT | · | Body of Evidence: From the Case Files | | Cops From Los An- geles: a nightclub brawl. (CC) | The Investigators prise" Alabama brot surance policies. | "A Deadly Enter- thers take out life-in- | Forensic Files Hunting the Zodiac Killer. | Forensic Files New facts for an old case. | Forensic Files De- bate over cause of death. | I, Detective For- tuneteller keys slay- ing probe. | Safety Challenge ' | |
| 48 | STR-WLD | (CC) | The Drew Carey Show (CC) | Asia | Friends (CC) | •Wrestling | | Stupid Behavior Caught on Tape (CC) | When Hidden Cameras Attack | Ultimate Force | | Friends (CC) | Stupid Behavior Caught on Tape (CC) |
| 50 | LIFE | Dorothy and Sophia take a trip. | | ** "Holiday in You Rebecca Schull. You Rudolph's Shiny N | | | Bernadette Peters, a turning point. (CC) ist" (1997, Drama) M | | | 11, Drama) Patricia E ites a reporter and a | leaton, Peter Falk, novelist. (CC) (DVS) | Merge A couple try lor pad. (CC) The 700 Club (CC) | to update his bache |
| 51 | ABCFAM | convince Chandler's son before he dies. Dead Men's Secret | father to see his (CC) | Dead Men's Secret | | store clerk gets eve | ry item on her extrav | agant wish list. (CC) | | Anyway? "Weird Newscasters." Band of Brothers | Anyway? "Super- heroes." (CC) | (:10) Modern Marv | ole "Comouflace" |
| 53 | HIST | Gold' Gold from def funds the war machi (4:45) "South | eated countries ine. (CC) | Trap" Cracking the omany's early radars | ode of Nazi Ger- | 10 Tankbuster provi for U.S. ground force | ides close air supportes. (CC) | total 60,000 in a sin War I. (N) (CC) | gle day during World (2003, Horror) Desm | | | Making soldiers, eq cities "invisible." (CC ark" (2002, Drama) \$ | uipment, forts and |
| 57 | STR-MV | Kensington" | cer single-handedly Height of Courage | takes on a band of t | errorists. | | Out There Mada- | Eliza Dushku, Emmize six stranded mo | anuelle Chriqui. Inbre | ond Harrington, ed cannibals terror- Return to Everest | Khandi Alexander. A him. | A dying detective hire | scott Wolf, I Im Hoth is a hit man to kill Out There Mada- |
| 58 | ADV 1 | Everest Diary "Jessica Biel" | Vaughan Story | The Real World | Borneo: Biking the Two mountain biken headhunter trail in E The Real World | s follow an ancient | gascar's ferocious predator. | PLost Real World | Real World | and the people who | | species of toads and frogs. | gascar's ferocious predator. |
| 59 | MTV | Jessica Biel. (N) | Friend | "Philadelphia" (CC) | Flaunting frater- nization rules. (CC) | (02) | Icanata can | Road Rules Chal- lenge (CC) | Road Rules Chal- lenge (CC) | Pimp My Ride | Friend | | |
| 60 | NICK | SpongeBob SquarePants (CC) | Rugrats Angelica makes Santa quit. (EI) (CC) | Scaredy Camp | Scaredy Camp | Scaredy Camp | Scaredy Camp | Scaredy Camp | SpongeBob SquarePants (CC) | Invader Zim | Rugrats Angelica makes Santa quit. (EI) (CC) | The Fairly Odd- Parents (CC) | As Told by Ginger |

JAPAN TV

Morning 7:30 Disney (12) Afternoon 5:50 News (6)

5:50 NeWS (6) **Evening**7:00 NHK News (1)
8:30 Planet Rugby (42)
9:03 U.S. Movie (1986): Cobra (1:51)(4)

(1:51)(4) 10:00 News (1) 1:53 Hero: Pro Boxing/Hakone Ekiden (marathon relay)(4) 2:40 CBS Documentary (6) 2:45 German Movie (1984): The Nev-erending Story (1:49)(8)

2:50 U.S. Movie (1969): Alice's Restau-rant (1:50)(10)

rant (1:50)(10) 3:10 U.S. Movie (1977): Breaker! Breaker! (1:40)(12)

JAPAN TV-BS7

Morning 6:15 World News 7:15 World News 8:15 World News 9:15 World News Hour 10:10 85 Documentary: Head Scarf Ban in French Schools (r) 11:15 CNN News

Afternoon 12:15 ABC News 12:15 ABC NewS 12:35 PGA Tour Golf Lesson (5) 2:15 PBS NewsHour 3:15 CNN NewS 4:15 World NewS Hour

5:15 Asian News Evening 6:15 CNN News 7:15 News Today: Asia

8:15 News Today: World 9:15 Economic News 10:10 World Reports

11:15 FIFA 2006 World Cup: European and South American Prelimi-nary Highlights nary Highlights
12:10 Soccer: AFC Champions
League: Final: Seongnam Chunma (Korea) vs. Al Ittihad (Saudi
Arabia)

2:15 Asian News 3:35 World Amazing Sports

4:15 Asian News 5:15 World News Hour

JAPAN TV-BS11 Morning 9:30 Aerobics

10:00 Classical Music: NHK Sympho-ny Orchestra Concert

Evening 7:00 NHK News 8:00 TV Drama: Don Quixote 12:30 Classical Music: Dresden Na-tional Orchestra Concert (r)

wowow Afternoon

Afternoon 12:00 TV Series: Third Watch 1:00 French-U.S. Movie (1973): Papil-lon (2:35) 4:00 U.S. Movie (2001): Angel Eyes (1:45)

Evening 10:00 U.S.-British Movie (2002): Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (1:50) 11:50 TV Series: Friends the Final 12:20 Stephen King's Kingdom Hospi-tal No. 2

1:10 Stephen King's Kingdom Hospi-tal No. 3

2:00 U.S. Movie (2002); Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat (1:45) 4:00 UEFA Euro 2004 Soccer: Spain vs. Portugal (r)

MTV Morning 6:00 Wake Up! 7:00 M Size Thursday

8:00 Top Choice 10:00 Pure Music 11:00 Top Choice Afternoon 12:00 Classic '90s

1:00 Screen 1:30 Consensus: The Mad Capsule Markets

Markets 2:00 All the Best of MTV 2004 No. 9-No. 10 3:00 All the Best of MTV 2004: Mak-

ing the Video Special — Good Charlotte & Eminem charlotte & Eminem
4:00 All the Best of MTV 2004: The Os-bournes Special No. 9-No. 10
5:00 All the Best of MTV 2004: Artist Special — The Mad Capsule Mar-kets & SUM 41

Evening 6:00 M Size Friday 7:00 Rocks 8:00 JAMMED: blink-182

8:30 Live: The Hives 9:00 All the Best of MTV Artist Spe-cial: Ashlee Simpson & Kasabi-an 10:00 Screen

10:00 Screen 10:30 Kylle Minogue Special: Clever Girl Kylle 11:00 World Chart Express Support-ed by Honda 1:00 YATAI

2:00 M Size Friday 3:00 After Hours

STARS STRIPES | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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On travel, DODDS on vacation

In the Nov. 25 Stripes article "Has better opportunity knocked?" addressing the lack of equal opportunity for athletes at Kadena and Kubasaki high schools was again skirted by the Department of De-fense Dependents Schools official in charge of communication.

Separate but equal is thinking that's been discredited by everyone familiar with rationalized discrimination, vet that seems to be the policy practiced here on Okinawa regarding our student-athletes

'[D]on't compare us with other areas begs DODDS spokesman Henry Meyer, as if Kadena/Kubasaki parents and students should blindly accept less-than-equal treatment or that Okinawan schools are covered by different standards for equal opportunity. While mandated local competition is the exclusive norm for Kadena/Kubasaki, in South Korea and Japan numerous travel days are the norm - as is competition with mainly DODDS schools.

The Web site for Edgren High School in northern Japan boasts of "frequent trips to Tokyo" for its athletic teams, and teams rom the Kanto Plain reciprocate that travel. These legitimate competitions may be dismissed as "jump[ing] off [a] bridge Henry Meyer, but the fact remains that other DODDS schools have numerous, funded opportunities for American competition that are denied to our Kadena/Kubasaki students. Just because local Okinawan teams are an easy, cheap supplement for some sports (excluding football, wrestling, cross-country, golf and others) does not make this Okinawan mandate a valid substitute for equal student opportunity throughout DODDS-Pacific.

Any question as to whether DODDS puts a greater emphasis on spinning this situation or on providing equal opportunity to our Kadena/Kubasaki students is answered by contrasting the Nov. 25 Stripes article on the travel ban with last week's DODDS Public Relations conference in Tokyo. Deriding the standard practice in Japan of travel days while floating questionable statistics in Stripes such as dents already miss up to 20 days [due to] Far East tournaments" ignores the reality that only a select few ever miss 20 days, and that Kubasaki/Kadena student-ath letes as a whole have grade-point averages well above those of their peers. Giving the impression that missing school severely affects only Kadena/Kubasaki students' education highlights the double standard of travel time on the mainland and ignores the inherent learning opportunities in travel competition

Meanwhile, DODDS continues to spend huge sums of money to improve its public relations skills at the local level, sponsoring the annual Public Relations conference for approximately 50 employees last week in Tokyo. Can you imagine the costs in teachers' wages, substitute teachers' funds, round-trip airfare, meals and rooms at the New Sanno Hotel, etc., for one conference of 50 people? Contrast that to what it might cost Kubasaki/Kadena stu-dent-athletes to travel once a season to compete against their American counter-

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity

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parts. Certainly for DODDS in this instance, the money's put where the mouth's at, on the top of the food chain.

While many parents choose to ignore the lack of progress regarding the travel ban, it's not because they're satisfied being treated as second-class sponsors. Because they're powerless, parents and our students must quietly abide lost learning opportunities while the only winner in this situation is apathy.

Unfortunately, the military chain of command has other important things to be concerned with Vet until base commanders become directly involved in this situation, they too will simply have to endure the rhetoric that's again spawned as communications about this separate equality for their children, explanations that could also apply to the latest typhoons on Okinawa, that being lots of moist, hot air propelled by forced spin. Lon LaGrave

Camp McTureous, Okinawa

Editor's note: Mr. LaGrave is a Kadena High parent and founder of K24EO, or Kadena and Kubasaki for Equal Opportu-

'Inalienable rights' are for all

Unlike letter writer Stephanie Verdon "Can't legislate religion," Dec. 11), I think it's legislation that needs to stay out of religion. She takes issue with letter writer Curtis M. Benham ("Attack bigger than Scouts," Dec. 1) for this quote: "The basis for [this] concept (inalienable rights) is an acknowledgment of God" and then incorrectly attempts to logically attach the conclusion that "an atheist has no rights ac-cording to the constitution." This simply isn't true.

First, the concept of inalienable rights appears in the Declaration of Independence — the Constitution is concerned with powers, not rights, specifically those of the government versus the people. This may sound trivial but it's not Thomas Jefferson and others believed that rights were not created by governments, but by God. Governments have the power to secure those God-given rights for their peo-

Second, the mere fact that inalienable rights are endowed by "their Creator means that a person has them regardless of whether that person actually believes in the Creator. This is a key difference from the John 3:16 verse stating why God gave his son to the world. In the case of salva-tion, religious belief is critical; with regard to inalienable rights, religious belief is irrelevant.

I'm often amazed at how the writer and others like her can imply that people who do not want the evils of the world around them are attempting to "impose their val-ues" on others, yet those who want the evils of the world to be omnipresent are doing no such thing.

The debate over moral values is precisely that by both sides. It is a discussion about whose values will be subsidized and permitted in the public square. Regardless of the decision, both sides need to realize that an endorsement of their values is precisely that - an imposition on others Every time we make a law, it is an imposition of some underlying value.

Some people such as Mr. Benham are probably simply tired of feeling that they are being handicapped in the marketplace of ideas because their particular values are founded on the Judeo-Christian religion. They may be tired of every winter going through the contest to see how much more of Christmas can be eroded from our culture or of listening to those who say: 'Christmas trees are now Holiday trees because of separation of church and state, but 'In God We Trust' stays on the money because it's expensive to change

Mr. Benham and his Boy Scouts want the same rights that other groups already have. The Boy Scouts desire to run their own organization the way they want without being discriminated against. They are not looking to impose their values, but neither are they looking to be denied the same rights as others merely because of those values.

Maj. Michael Lawhorn Camp Red Cloud, South Korea

No lesson learned from 'B.C.'

I am writing in regard to the "B.C." comic strip in Stars and Stripes' Dec. 10 edition. In the comic, Johnny's mom notices that he is failing in every subject Johnny responds that that is OK, as he will be promoted anyway. His mom then asks: "But what will you do when you gradu-ate?" Johnny responds: "Teach."

This is a slap in the face to all teachers. As teachers, we have had to go to college for five or more years, we have to pass a praxis teaching exam, and then have to be granted a teaching license by each state in which we want to work For a teacher to continue teaching, all states require continued course work throughout one's teaching career. I am disappointed with this comic strip.

Marianne Reaves Misawa, Japan By GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury









OPINION

U.S. military equipped with outspoken GIs

litzer Prize. And Thomas Wilson should get a Silver Star.

Pitts is the reporter from the Chattanooga (Tenn.) Times Free Press

Zev Chafets



"town meeting" in Kuwait and planted a question about the insufficiency of defensive equipment in the

al Guardsman, Wilson, served as Pitts' mouthpiece. He stood up and demanded to know if the secretary

of defense was aware that some American units had to scavenge for protective armor and what did Rumsfeld plan to do about it.

A Pentagon spokesman initially denounced Pitts and Wilson for breaking the rules of journalistic engagement. But the question hit a nerve and drew cheers from the audience

Most of these meet-the-secretary events are meaningless morale sessions, but this was different. Wilson's fellow Guardsmen cheered him not only for raising a troubling question but for having the brass to do it

Rumsfeld, to his credit, handled the ques tion pretty well. His reply - you go to war with the army you have, not the army you'd like to have - was blunt but honest So was his admission that no amount of Rumsfeld's critics are now assailing him

for sounding crass. But a certain amount of hardheartedness goes with his job, espe-cially in wartime. Rumsfeld is in charge of spending American lives in the pursuit of That's a heavy Hand-wringing and false tears don't help.

Still, there is a limit to even Rumsfeld's candor. The secretary of defense didn't say, as he could rightly have, that the U.S. Army sends its troops into combat with fantastic technological advantages. Anyone who was a soldier even a decade ago marvels at the equipment American soldiers have, from night-fighting gear to computfrom protective Kevlar state-of-the-art scopes. When the U.S. military goes up against Arab insurgents - or the Iraqi army - there is simply no com-

This is as it should be War isn't a game Fairness isn't a goal.

On the contrary, the whole point is to gain an overwhelming advantag

Despite its shortcomings, the Pentagon has largely done that job. By any standard short of perfection, American troops are astonishingly well-provisioned and equipped a fact attested to by the relative ease with which they win their battles.

It's worth remembering, though, that great hardware is not the only explanation for American military superiority. Democracy, it turns out, is not simply the most pleasant form of government. It is also the most ruthlessly efficient - especially in

Within hours of the Rumsfeld town meet-



ing the entire American media set up a hue and cry about what's missing in the Iraqi theater. After initial sputtering about a lack of resources, the Pentagon (inspired no doubt by an embarrassed secretary of defense) started talking about stepping up production of armored vehicles at home and greater attention to the safety of troops in the field

This kind of public-driven improvement doesn't take place in the armies of America's adversaries, which are led by friends and relatives of dictators. Lovalty, not competence, is what counts in those armies. Soldiers who ask questions are punished. Sollike Thomas Wilson who ask them publicly are shot (if they're lucky). Same for cheeky reporters like Edward Lee

Guys like Pitts and Wilson keep the Pentagon and the generals honest. In the end, they are a source of American military strength no less than the extra armored ve-hicles that will — thanks to them — be moving down the assembly line for Iraq

With Internet, 'permanent record' no idle threat

BY EDWARD WASSERMAN

t was a little matter, but the implications were big. Some years ago a student at a small college was interviewed for an undergraduate reporting project on weapons. (Both student and school shall go unnamed here.) He was brash and foolish, and he bragged about his collection, which he liked to keep close at hand. He was quoted at length; he sounded like a jerk. The article was posted on a departmental Web site.

Now, years later, it can be unearthed instantly by anybody with Internet access. If you Google the kid's name, the first entry that pops up makes him sound like Travis Bickel from "Taxi Driver." Hire him? A pro spective employer would more likely call Security. So the alumnus appealed to the school to help.

Which it can't, even if it wanted to. The feathers are out of the pillow, the toothpaste out of the tube. An incalculable number of copies of that item lurk on the Internet There's even a vast Invisible Web where dead Web sites live on. Expunging the record isn't an option.

Such is the Internet's underside: an incapacity to forget. In cyberspace, information has two qualities that it has never quite had before: It is imperishable — and it is univer-sally accessible. The combination has a disturbing potential that the usual norms of news media, which create so much information, never anticipated.

For reasons of law and custom, the media traditionally insist on a fairly clean distinction between public and private. They acsphere. But they insist that they're entitled to report on anything that's "public.

Fortunately, that's a right, not a reality. As a practical matter, much of what's techni-

cally public remains effectively private from your age to the juicy details of your divorce, from how many cars you own to what our house is worth. Even police records: All but a tiny fraction of arrests go unpublicized to the wider world. Maybe that's bad. But maybe that makes it easier for people to go forth and sin no more.

So we're used to dwelling, most of us, in a zone of relative obscurity, and not just with personal data. Within limits we could mess up — streak across campus, tear down the alposts, get into a barroom punch-up and even if it made the local paper, our sins would be soon forgotten. That "permanent record" we were warned about has largely been a phantom.

Not any longer. The comfort of relative obscurity is giving way to the glare of immedi-

Elements can be saved. Governments can enact Web-access rules to public databases.

ate accessibility.

Colleges can decide that the young should be able to make fools of themselves with impunity, and withhold student chronicles from the Net.

But the news media exist to make things public. The real challenge is theirs, because Internet fundamentally challenges some of the basics of what news is

Take the assumption that news is about informing people right now.

No longer. Now news is indistinguishable from archive. With every deadline, newsrooms are building a globally accessible store of information that's here for keeps. It better be right. That means mistakes must be fixed zealously, no matter how long ago the original report ran, even if nobody complains. Those papers may be landfill, but the error is still hanging there in cyberspace, fresh as ever, wrong as can be,

Likewise, consider follow-through: How can you report an arrest without ever noting that the charges were dropped and the de fendant acquitted? Routine neglect like that was tolerable only because we assumed that the matter would soon be forgotten. But nothing is forgotten that way now. On the Internet, that arrested person will remain under a cloud forever

In the disturbing sci-fi movie "Strange Days," technology enables raw experience to be recorded. Not just pictures and sound, but sensation and emotion, can be played back. Our iilted hero keeps replaying — literally reliving - the thrill of a doomed affair. The result is that he never gets over his ex. The memory never fades.

There is a mercy to forgetfulness, just as

there is to averting our eyes. The Internet gives us a great deal, but it is destroying both options, and we have no ready way to restore those vanishing mercies.

Edward Wasserman is Knight professor of journalism ethics at Washington and Lee University in Lexing-ton, Va. He wrote this column for The Miami Herald.

Mallard Fillmore

I'm glad you're all prosperous, happyand well. *scription* But next For #35: year, 1'o Like it much better.

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



PAGE 16 J 9346969684 STARS AND S

Less 'Heart'

AL MONTGOMERY — The state slogan "Heart of Dixie," a source of pride to some and embarrassment to others, is disappearing from more Alabama license plates every year.

One-third of the groups that promote distinctive and collegiate license plates now choose to leave the slogan off their tags

The standard state license plate still has "Heart of Dixie," quired by state law, but it's re-duced to letters one-sixteenth of an inch high, printed on a bottom cor-

Former Gov. Don Siegelman, who approved that design, said he wanted it to foster positive images at a time when Alabama was trying to recruit international corpora-

Gas station shooting

MA MEDFORD — A gas sta-tion attendant in Medford pulled his own gun on two would-be robbers, shooting and wounding one of the suspects, po-lice said. The second suspect got

away.
"It looked like self-defense,"
Medford police Lt. Paul Covino said of the incident at Fred's Gas Auto Service on Mystic Avenue. He said the gun was registered to the attendant, who was licensed to carry a firearm.

No charges have been filed against the attendant, who was not identified. Police said he fired seven or eight shots at the susnects.

Unconfirmed alcohol

GRETNA - Traces of alcohol were detected in the suspected "Jell-O shots" taken to school by a fourth grader — leading to her suspension — but it could have been the result of natural fermentation, a school official

School board president Gene Katsanis said the gelatin cannot be retested because it was not refrigerated after being discovered in the student's book bag, Katsanis said. "It will always remain a mystery," he said.

Artifacts wash up

DE LEWES — Visitors to a newly rebuilt beach near Roosevelt Inlet have been finding hundreds of artifacts that could be more than 300 years old. The items were dredged from the bottom of the Delaware Bay. It's not known if the artifacts were from a shipwreck or an early colonial settlement submerged by erosion.

Can't find the birds

HI OLINDA — Bad weather on Maui has prevented wildlife experts from spotting what they believe are the last two po'ouli birds on earth.

The quest to save the rare birds took on new urgency last month with the death of a male bird captured for breeding.

There are believed to be two remaining birds in the wild, but 10 straight days of rain in the Hanawi Natural Area Reserve have hindered scientists' efforts to locate them

The po'ouli is part of the Hawaiian honeycreeper family and is so unique is has its own genus. It was

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

not discovered until 1973, when a group of University of Hawaii students conducting research on the east slope of Haleakala volcano sighted a bird they had never seen before.

The small, stocky, brown bird has a partial black face described as a bandit's mask.

Targeting drunken drivers

LA BATON ROUGE — The Louisiana Highway Safety Commission will provide \$500,000 to pay for overtime for patrols dedicated to getting drunken drivers off the roads during the holidays. Since 1999, an average of 25 people have been killed in Louisiana highway crashes over the holidays every year. Commission official James Champagne said almost half of the New Year's fatalities and one-third of the Christmas fatalities were alcohol-related.

Freed after 12 years

FORT WORTH - Texas officials freed a man who spent 12 years in prison after he was wrongfully convicted of molesting a 3-year-old girl. John Michael Harvey, 40, was re-

leased after the state Court of Criminal Appeals ruled 5-4 there was not enough evidence to convict him after his alleged victim recanted more than a decade after he was jailed. Prosecutors have said



Wearing the crown

After being crowned Santa Lucia. Nicole Bergman, front, leads the Luciataget (Lucia train) as they proceed to the recention following the first annual Santa Lucia Festivi. ties in Stratford, Iowa.

they do not plan to seek a new trial.

Harvey missed a lot during 12 years behind bars, including marrying his girlfriend and spending time with his parents, none of whom doubted his innocence. His relationship with his

fiancée fell apart after he was sentenced to 40 years in prison in 1992. After draining most of their life savings to defend him, his father died in 2000 and his mother passed away two years later.

Harvey's nightmare started in 1989, when he returned from a trip and learned police had searched his Bedford apartment. When he went to find out why, authorities arrested him for sexual assault of a child.

He said he was offered a plea deal, but did not want to admit to something he did not do. "If you're guilty, you're worried. Being innocent. I wasn't concerned." Harvey said

Rooftop crash

LOS ANGELES — A small helicopter crashed on the roof of a downtown skyscraper while trying to make an emergency landing, authorities said.

Two men aboard the privately owned aircraft were uninjured in the 10 a.m. crash. The cause remained under investigation.

The two-seat Robinson R-22 was badly damaged when it crashed next to the helipad atop the 54-story Wells Fargo building, city Fire Department spokesman Brian Humphrey said.

There was no fire, and no debris fell from the building, Humphrey said. The National Transportation Safety Board was investigating.

Bush photos controversy

PA LANCASTER — A Demo-cratic city councilman is demanding that a baker remove phoresident Bush from his stand in Lancaster's farmers market, saying the city needs a "healing period" following the bitterly contested election.

City Councilman Nelson Polite asked baker David Stoltzfus last month to remove the pictures. When Stoltzfus refused, Polite threatened to try to enact a city or dinance that would ban all political material from public places.

"I just feel that since it was a close election and the city's so divided, that we should have a heal-ing period," Polite told the New Era of Lancaster.

Republican Mayor Charlie Smithgall said potential visitors have told him they will skip the old city in the heart of Amish country because of Polite's statements.

DNA helps rape cases

VA NORFOLK — DNA test results that freed two men imprisoned for rapes they did not commit implicate a convicted rapist already serving three life terms for a 1984 rape.

Aaron Doxie III probably committed the rapes for which Arthur Lee Whitfield and Julius Earl Ruffin served a total of 43 years before heing cleared Commonwealth's At-

torney John R. Doyle III said. Doyle said Doxie will not be prosecuted for the rapes because in both cases key witnesses have died

Whitfield and Ruffin were convicted of rapes in Norfolk that occured in 1981.



High-flyin' trick

Denny Howard of Carson City, Nev., performs a "Nolley Hand Flip" at the Mills Park skateboard park in Carson City, Nev.



Candidates for masters and doctor-Reflecting on school ate degrees are reflected in a hallway mirror while preparing for fall commencement at Washington State University in Pullman, Wash,



Topeka police officers and Shawnee Emu on the loose County sheriff's deputies try to catch an emu as it dashes across traffic at an intersection in Topeka, Kan. Unable to find the emu's owner, authorities found it a new home.



Making it festive?

A skeleton in a Santa hat tries to set a holiday mood in the orthopedicneurologic unit at the Benefis Healthcare hospital in Great Falls. Mont.



U.S. Border Patrol agent Mark Bordering a touchdown Bazill, center, runs past his blocker, agent Rick Sanchez, left, as he is chased by Alamogordo Department of Public Safety officer Richard Luna, right, during the annual Liniment Bowl at Griggs Complex in Alamogordo, N.M.



Chorale cheer

The Appleton Boychoir performs A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols at Lawrence Memorial Chapel in Appleton, Wis.



Skiing Santa Claus annual Christmas on the Coosa festival.

Botulism mystery

TALLAHASSEE - Tests to determine the source of the botulism toxin that left four people hospitalized were inconclusive, and it was unclear whether a cosmetic injection caused the paralyz ing, potentially fatal illness, officials said.

Investigators suspect the four people, two in New Jersey and two in South Florida, may have been injected with the toxin for cosmetic reasons. All have been hospitalized since the Thanksgiving weekend.

Tests conducted at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta detected botulism toxin type A in blood from three individuals. Specimens were not available for the fourth person.

Florida Health Secretary John Agwunobi noted that the toxin also causes the type of botulism that comes from eating contaminated foods or from having a wound contaminated.

Alcohol-related death

CO DENVER - Colorado State University officials said a 20-year-old student whose body was found appears to be the latest in a string of alcohol-related deaths involving Colorado students this fall.

Bennett Bertoli's body was found in a house across the street from where he lived near the Fort Collins campus

Police said they were called after attempts to wake him were unsuccessful.

Police have not released the cause of Bertoli's death, but Anne Hudgens, executive director of campus life, told the Fort Collins Coloradoan that it appeared to be alcohol-related. Police did not say where Bertoli had been the night before or how he ended up in the house.

Ex-con won't teach

NY CLINTON — A former left-ist radical who spent 16 vears in prison for possessing explosives has withdrawn from teaching a college seminar after her hiring sparked protests.

Susan Rosenberg made her decision because it was in the best interest of all parties, Hamilton College officials said.

In response to her hiring, prospective students withdrew applications and donors rescinded hundreds of thousands of dollars in pledges, school officials said.

Rosenberg, who earned a mas-ter's degree in creative writing while in prison, was to teach a one-month course in January called "Resistance Memoirs: Writ ing, Identity and Change." She was hired through an on-campus organization that focuses on social instice issues

Algae researched

FL MARCO ISLAND — Scientists are tracking a 400-square-mile bloom of red tide algae lurking off the Gulf Coast, pointing to it as the likely cause of a mass fish kill and several dolphin deaths at the tip of the Florida peninsula

"It looks almost the size of a small state. It really is a large area of bloom," said Billy Causey, superintendent of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. "I'd have to say that this is the largest red

tide bloom that I have ever seen.

A red tide is considered a higher-than-normal concentration of a plant-like microscopic algae. The species that usually contaminates the water during Florida Gulf Coast red tides is called Karenia brevis. which produces a toxin that can affect a fish's central nervous system.

Nude Statehouse lamp

MONTPELIER — Gov.

James Douglas is doing some tidying up in his office and one thing he thinks can go is a table lamp that sometimes makes him red-faced. The lamp, installed on his desk

recently as part of a Statehouse restoration project, is a replica of a famous 19th century nude statue that cost \$2,500 and is plugged into an overhead chandelier

"The governor does not object to the art." said Douglas spokesman Jason Gibbs, "It may, frankly, be awkward to explain why there is a nude Greek slave on the governor's desk to a third-grader.

The lamp is a replica of "The Greek Slave" — a chained female slave crafted by a Vermont artist in 1843

Machete attack

TEXAS CITY — Police are looking for a man accused of attacking a woman with a machete, severing one of her fingers. Rachael Ornelas was in stable condition at the University of Texas Medical Branch following

The 42-year-old woman had called emergency dispatchers, pleading for help, detective Brian Goetschius of the Texas City Police Department said. Emergency medical service workers and police found her covered in blood at her apartment.

Police recovered a large machete and issued a warrant for the arrest of a 40-year-old man

New take on remedy

CA SAN FRANCISCO — Comhating malaria has been one of the primary goals of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and its latest gift of \$42.6 million will fund a nonprofit drug company's high-tech take on an ancient Chinese remedy.

Working with a biotechnology company, the San Francisco-based Institute for OneWorld Health will try to turn the genetic engineering efforts of Jay Keasling of the University of California, Berkley into an inexpensive and effective drug to fight malaria in the third world. Keasling is developing a new

way to manufacture artemisinin, which is made from finely ground wormwood plants. Chinese first extracted artemisinin from the sweet wormwood for medicinal use more than 2,000 years ago.

Search for GOP leader

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois Republicans are searching for a new head of their party after GOP chairwoman Judy Baar Topinka gave them until Jan. 31 to find her replacement. Within the party, fierce ideological bickering has driven a wedge between conservatives and moderates. Democrats control both houses of the Legislature, the governor's mansion and the state Supreme Court. Stories and photos from wire services

Santa water skis on the Coosa River in Wetumpka. Ala., for the town's

BACKPACK

GA

vear

J Horoscope

We're days away from the magical winter solstice, and the sparkling qualities of the season are starting to flair. Venus has danced into Sagittarius, igniting

wonder in the young and desire in the more mature. There's so much to want this time of year. Mercury retrograde helps with the "make your list and check it twice" part.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (December 17). Your year ahead is filled with romance, easy communica tion and a firm footing at

home. Those feeling the holiday pinch in their wallets this winter will get a much welcome sense of financial stability just in time for tax season. Shopping sprees in May and August are fun upgrades to your lifestyle - as long as you plan ahead for them! Your lucky numbers are: 16, 17, 30, 45, and 22

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

Tensions arise when your priorities don't match those of your loved ones. The best time for a family talk is over dinner. Topics that are tough to swallow go down easier with something sweet. Stressed spelled backward is desserts!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

Add beauty and balance to your home through the judicious use of color, texture and placement. Books on the art of feng shui can help you harmonize your living space and keep positive energy flowing in the right direction.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The future is an infinite succession

of nows. Avoid fuzzy thinking and self-deception. Your clear vision today will help build a solid foundation for tomorrow. Quiet your mind to get to the center of what's real

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A financial situation that's been quietly simmering in the background may become more worrisome, but only

temporarily. Allow your intuition to guide you to an answer. Supportive stars help you achieve

a more grounded reality

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Reassess your situation. You may realize you need to throw out the old rulebook and play a whole new game. If you haven't done so already, now is perfect for adjusting your boundaries and setting goals for the coming

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A sparkling opportunity **Holiday Mathis**

emerges, allowing you to indulge the creative side of yourself, which you've been suppressing for far too long. You like a challenge, but why make things unnecessarily difficult? Take yes for an

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Beautiful air signs like you are

extra sensitive to sound waves. You can lift yourself out of a funk by creating good vibrations. I isten to some uplifting music or birds flying south for the winter.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're being pulled by subtle yet opposing forces. A nurturing, feminine influence quietly urges you to bring something to fruition, while a disruptive, masculine influence helps you make sure your strategy is solid.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your head and your heart are likely to be in conflict. Your heart will win, so you may as well give in to it! If you've been holding back on telling someone you care, the planets are on your side.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). Mother's advice turns out to be right! You are in prime position to benefit greatly through the wise counsel of a female family member or perhaps the clan patriarch. Light a candle in memory of your ancestors.

AOUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You feel as though a woman in your life is trying to pick a fight with you. perhaps over an issue concerning money or prestige. Take the high ground - accept that she still loves you, and forgive her moods.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Make a conscious effort to tune in to your loved one. You'll be rewarded with romance, compassion and

more than a little bit of magic. Keep some watercolors and a brush on hand, too - your cup brims with creative inspiration

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts



















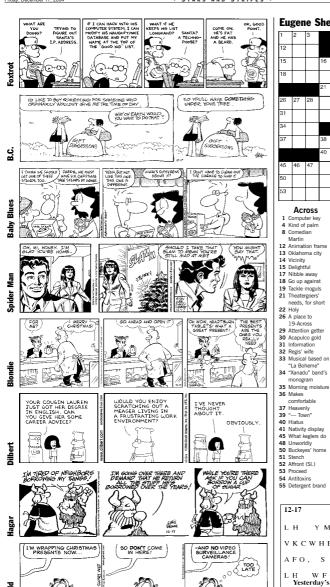




Rover







Fugene Sheffer Crossword

| 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
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Across

- 4 Kind of palm
- Martin
- 12 Animation frame
- 15 Delightful
- 19 Tackle moguls
- 21 Theatergoers'

- 29 Attention getter
- 30 Acapulco gold
- 31 Information
- 32 Regis' wife
- "La Boheme" 34 "Xanadu" band's
- 35 Morning moisture
- comfortable
- 37 Heavenly
- 39 "__ Town"
- 45 What keglers do
- 50 Ruckeyes' home
- 51 Stench
- 52 Affront (SI.)
- 53 Proceed
- 54 Antitoxins

Down 1 Canyon comeback

- 2 Leak slowly 3 Put your hands
- together
- 4 Admits
- 5 Wing, maybe
- 6 Hodges of

Kyser

23 Some deer

24 Sea eagle

25 They're often

connected

26 Dumbfounded

- baseball lore 7 Homer's story
- 8 Prestidigitation
- 9 Grecian vessel 10 Meadow
- 11 Ally McBeal's field
- 16 Picked a winner? 20 Bandleader
 - Rapunzel 44 "Born Free"
- 43 Access to lioness

27 One's

33 Less

performances

commonplace

35 "CSI" evidence

36 Archimedes'

38 Dome home

42 Relinquish

39 Earthy pigment

outcry

28 Pithy saying

29 Explanation

32 "Holy cow!"

(Abbr.)

- 45 Cranberry territory
- 46 "What have we
- here?" 47 Humor
- 49 Ball-bearing item

| | A | ns | wei | r to | P | rev | ioi | IS | Puz | zle | • | |
|---|---|----|-----|------|---|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|---|---|
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CRYPTOQUIP

YMKKC B V F WFA

VKCWHE ΗE ZFGKELSEK'W

AFO. S CKYJHE OHB MFZK

"LFJK MKFCL!" WFO Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WORDS OF WOE FROM A FAILING DIETER MIGHT BE "A WAIST IS A TERRIBLE THING TO MIND."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals T

Press charges against Fiancee

Dear Abby: My fiancee, "Monique," has put me into financial ruin. It's all because of this girl she has been hanging around with, "Tracy." Monique's friends have warned her to stay away from Tracy because she's bad

news Abby, the two of them have been kiting money Monique has also forged my name on my own checks, and sold my personal items - things left to me by my grandparents. For years, people have urged me to press

Monique and I have two children, 3 and 2. I spoke to a lawyer and I will have no problem

Monique is on one year's probation and has to pay restitution because she stole from her employer. She is American; we live in Canada. With all the stuff that's happening, Monique

me I should press charges.

Monique wasn't like this until she met Tracy Should I press charges, or should I just say goodbye, take the kids and go my way? A mutual friend says Moe told her that if I do that, she will forget the kids, and find a new guy and have kids with him. - Stressed Out

in Canada Dear Stressed Out: I'm glad you wrote and I'm pleased to help end your ambivalence. Listen to your common sense as well as to what Monique's par-

ents are urging you to do Protect vourself and the kids. Press charges. Tracy is not responsible for your fiancee's

behavior. Your fiancee appears to have no conscience. Jail time won't help her mend her ways, but it will slow her down

Dear Abby: Last week, we invited a couple for dinner this week. Two days before the party,

isions should not be dismissed/

I called to confirm the time and they said they'd be here

On the evening of the dinner, they showed up two hours late without even a phone call. They said the husband had to work late. Neither of them offered an apology. We had tried twice to contact them before we finally decided to go ahead and eat They seemed offended that we

Were we wrong to assume they weren't coming? If you haven't heard otherwise, how long should you wait for guests before eating without them?

— Tired of Waiting in Virginia

Dear Tired of Waiting: You were not wrong to assume that your guests were no-shows and to have eaten dinner. That they failed to call and inform you that they had been delayed was rude. Thirty minutes is long enough to wait for tardy guests — or less if there's danger the meal will be overcooked.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6944 Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can writ o Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles. You're falling behind, Ms. Vickers one letter to each square to form four ordinary words. KANET **PROWE** NIAMEA

YOTHER

Answer

FULL-TIME JOB Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

PLISHED AT HER

Jumbles: NOOSE SUBLY JARGON UNFOLD Yesterday's THE "FORE" GROUND

A tournament golfer tries to avoid this -

Family Circus

12-17

"Santa can speak any language in the world."

getting full custody.

may have to leave the country. Monique's parents have told

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Worried Grandma" whose 12-year-old grandson "Zach," was having visions. Your immediate advice was for the boy to be hustled off to a neurologist. You have done this child a disservice by your knee-jerk assumption that he has some type of mental problem There is another possi-

bility that should not be overlooked: The boy may be psychic Please take a look at the larger picture, and acknowledge the fact that there are those who have abilities far beyond yours and mine.

- Paranormal Advocate

Dear Advocate: Many readers were confused that we recommended a neurologist, so let's clear that up. Visions such as those described by the grandmother could signal that the boy has a brain tumor or other neuro logical disorder. We felt it was necessary to rule out serious medical concerns, and that is



why a neurologist was the appropriate referral. We heard from many readers who were convinced the boy's visions should be celebrated. Read on:

From California: My ESP started at 1 year of age, and it has

been 50-plus years of dealing with others' biased attitudes. If you feel the urge to refer this family to a doctor, at least refer them to

a parapsychologist. Washington: As a child, I

saw stacked translucent colored cubes

When I was older. I used to see a long-haired female folk singer strumming her guitar. I discovered these were "auras" before my panic attacks. I've been on an anti-anxiety anti-depressant for vears now with excellent results.

Madison. Wis.: Zach's visions could be past life regression. It is wonderful this teen was so intuitive and spiritual that he could remember a previous life without being regressed or hypnotized.

Bainbridge, N.Y.: Zach

may have some incredible gifts that he should be taught to cherish. He should be put in touch with a religious community in which he could explore what may be a blossoming spirituality.

East Coast: When I moved into my new home, I had visions of an old woman with a skinny cat. It happened whenever I washed the dishes. I consulted a spiritual medium who told me I was seeing the former owner of the home. Ten years later. I met someone who knew the owner and said she had a cat and loved her kitchen

ner Kitchen.
Annie's Mailhox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comeast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syncate, S779 K. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 50045.

Next use a MBA 12/17



I Remember when all the Toys A KID Wanted For Christmas would fit in a stocking."

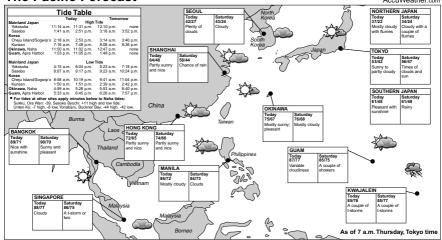






The Pacific Forecast

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Extended Forecasts

TOKYO

Sunday: Rain, high 55, low 44. Monday: Mostly sunny, high 53. low 40.

KADENA Sunday: Periods of clouds and

sunshine, high 76, low 67. Monday: Partly sunny, high 74, low 66.

SEOUL

Sunday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 36, low 17. Monday: Mostly sunny, high 29 low 18

MANILA

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, high 86, low 72. Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 87, low 73.

HAGATNA

Sunday: Showers, high 83, low 75. Monday: Showers, high 83, low 75.

Wednesday's USA Temperatures

| CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW |
|----------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Albuquerque | 51/32 | Los Angeles | 82/52 |
| Amarillo | 54/30 | Little Rock | 45/24 |
| Anchorage | 28/26 | Louisville | 39/25 |
| Asheville | 43/16 | Miami | 69/58 |
| Baltimore | 38/19 | Milwaukee | 42/31 |
| Birmingham | 50/24 | Nashville | 41/22 |
| Bismarck | 48/29 | New York | 34/26 |
| Boise | 44/28 | Omaha | 46/31 |
| Boston | 29/23 | Orlando | 59/44 |
| Brownsville | 69/52 | Philadelphia | 38/22 |
| Buffalo | 32/26 | Phoenix | 72/49 |
| Burlington | 20/15 | Pittsburgh | 31/18 |
| Charleston, St | C 46/24 | Portland, OR | 49/37 |
| Charlotte | 42/18 | Portland, ME | 28/13 |
| Cleveland | 35/23 | Salt Lake City | 43/27 |
| Columbus, OF | 34/22 | St. Louis | 46/29 |
| Duluth | 36/18 | San Antonio | 57/40 |
| El Paso | 57/34 | San Diego | 73/54 |
| Hartford | 31/13 | San Juan | 85/74 |
| Helena | 47/23 | Tampa | 60/42 |
| Indianapolis | 38/25 | Tulsa | 49/28 |
| Jacksonville | 50/32 | Washington | 39/24 |
| Kansas City | 48/30 | Wichita | 48/30 |
| | | | |



U.S. Extended Forecast

An area of high pressure will cause frigid air to seep into the Upper Midwest and Great Lakes region Friday. The cold air flowing over lakes Superior and Michigan will trigger lake-effect snow bands along the eastern shores of both lakes. The leading edge of the cold air will be accompanied by a cold front which will bring flurries to New England and lake-enhanced snow showers to western New York and western Pennsylvania. Meanwhile, moisture flowing from the Gulf of Mexico into the western Gulf Coast states will ignite a few showers in eastern Texas and Louisiana. High pressure will continue to dominate much of the West with dry weather. Rain will push into the extreme Northwest.

Friday's Pacific Temperatures

Friday's World Temperatures

| | | , | | | | , | | | | | | | |
|--------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------|----------|----------------|---------|
| CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY H | IGH/LOW |
| Bangkok | 89/71 | lwakuni | 57/45 | Sasebo NB | 61/48 | Acapulco | 88/71 | Budapest | 41/33 | Kabul | 56/28 | Nairobi | 83/58 |
| Beijing | 32/16 | Kadena AB | 75/67 | Sapporo | 37/22 | Athens | 53/44 | Buenos Aires | 82/64 | Kiev | 35/28 | New Delhi | 86/57 |
| Camp Casey | 42/26 | Kunsan AB | 53/39 | Seoul | 42/27 | Auckland | 62/47 | Cairo | 60/41 | Kuwait | 56/30 | Oslo | 40/32 |
| Christchurch | 58/34 | Kwajalein | 85/76 | Shanghai | 64/48 | Baghdad | 46/28 | Cancun | 73/62 | London | 45/34 | Paris | 40/33 |
| Diego Garcia | 88/77 | Manila | 86/72 | Singapore | 88/77 | Barbados | 86/71 | Cape Town | 78/56 | Madrid | 54/44 | Rio de Janeiro | 85/73 |
| Hagatna | 87/77 | Misawa AB | 34/20 | Sydney | 70/63 | Barcelona | 54/49 | Geneva | 39/34 | Mexico City | 63/45 | Rome | 55/42 |
| Hanoi | 76/63 | Osan | 45/31 | Taegu | 52/37 | Berlin | 38/29 | Istanbul | 49/41 | Montreal | 31/9 | St. Petersburg | 36/29 |
| Hong Kong | 72/65 | Perth | 80/58 | Taipei | 77/65 | Bermuda | 63/55 | Jerusalem | 52/37 | Mogadishu | 91/73 | Stockholm | 41/30 |
| Honolulu | 82/70 | Pusan | 55/43 | Tokyo | 53/42 | Brussels | 39/29 | Johannesbur | g 85/61 | Moscow | 28/25 | Warsaw | 37/29 |



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alarm, many extras. \$4000 OBO. Call Ron, 011-9687-3750

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Courtney - 1992 Toyota Camry: Clean car, very reliable. Power, Windows, CD Player, JCI until February 2005 1500 OR Best Offer call Eric 622-5348 HERBMILL2000@YAHOO.COM

Courtney, Okinawa - 1992 Toyo-ta Levin: Clean car, very relia-ble. Power, Windows, C. D Play-er, JCI until February 2004 500 OR Best offer call Eric 622-5348 o r e m a 1 HERBMILL2000@YAHOO.COM

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Autos for Sale

- Okinawa 148

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Address

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Stokinswa - Step up step down transformer makes power "clean" by converting Japanes voltage to American. We paid \$60 you pay \$45 0BO used only 6 m on this. E mail rebekahmichael74 & hotmail.

Kadena, Okinawa - Homeric, anti-gravity massage chair \$175. Call 633-1513 if interested. Kadena, Okinawa - Portable air conditioner, bought for \$500 selling it for \$150 because missing exhausts hose. Call 090-3792-3755 or email acocks@kda.attmil.ne.jp Kadena, Okinawa - White Westinghouse iron: adjustable steam,
burst of steam, coated sole
plate, full view of water window,
thermostat adjustment dial, indicator light, 6 settings:/wool,
cotton, linen, rylon, acetate)
Brand New, still in boxd \$15
633-8906 air_force
wifer@thorail.com

Okinawa - Selling four electrica outlet frequency converters. let frequency converters, ce \$50.00 each. Please con-t Lisa at 098-898-7582 or 0-1946-9148.

Camp Zama ITR/Local irs Office is soliciting for a sure Services Concession Tours Office is soliciting for a Listance Services Concession. Listance Services Concession. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is 11700 hrs. January 10, 2005. Please contact the NAF Con-1000-1500 hrs. 1000-1500 hrs. 1

1020

Miscellaneous sale: \$200.00, and a Victoria's Secret coin purse for \$5. Call 646-4374 or e-mail sullygem@yahoo.com

surrygem aryahoo.com.
Foster, Okinawa - Buffy the vampire slayer DVD box set season 1 and 2 take them both for \$20 646-4158 or stinkinawa @vahoo.com. Kadena, Okinawa - Telescope -G- Tech Like New! \$125.00 633.0323

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Miscellaneous 1040

sflokinawa@yahoo.com Foster, Okinawa - Vital Solutions, 24 hr. timed releaser tions, 24 hr. timed released dietary supplements. Made with vitamins, minerals and herbal extracts. 2 bottles run for \$70 will sell both for \$50. Call #646-4374 or e-mail sullygem@yahoo.com.

Kadena, Okinawa - Brand New With tags Louis Vitton pure and medium size wallet for sale \$300 OBO for purse, and \$100 OBO for wallet. Will sell both for \$375 both are dark brown with light brown LV monograms. Call Desiree & 633-4269 or email 22 VHS takes all kady. me @ gnjapan@kda.attmil.ne.jp Kadena, Okinawa - Brand new never been opened DVD's for sell. Have Kermirs Swamp years, Gentle Ben 1 and 2, Never-ending Story III, All Dogs Go To Heaven, Alice in Wonder-land (not Disney), and The Secret of Nymph. Sell for \$5 each. Call Michelle at 632-3527.

Miscellaneous 1040

MAS Items: 6'used tree-\$30, 3 boxes of new clear classic lights \$7 each, 3 boxes of multicolored net lights \$7 each, one new 3'sweet berry Christmas tree \$12. Call 633-1831, leave a message

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Yokota, Japan - Huffy basketball Yokota, Japan - Huffy basketball with original papers, less than 6 months old, Zoljroshi 5-cup rice cooker with papers, Bratz, My Soene, Barble, fire truck, HP DeskLet 952C color inkight printer; Lab-tech LCS-1030 computer speakers and more. Call 227-3893.

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Atsugi: 94 Toyota Marino. Silver grey interior, 4 door, 10 disc CE

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and mach more. Call 227:3839.

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Hiliux turbo diseal, groy, 4wd,
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Great for off road, and snow.

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tires, bettery, and alternative,
asking \$800, or doo Contact
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046-852-4973. Please leave a

Autos for Sale

Yokosuka - 93 Toyota Corolla Limited 4Dr: 47,200 km, AlC, Power Windowslocks, Kenwood CD, JCI Aug '06, Base Inspec-tion July '06, Very reliable car. PCS'ing, Must sell, Asking 2000 GBO, Please call Rene at 246-5934, 0902-641-9515 (col) or Arny at 243-5112 or 0907-222-0631 (cell).

Yokosuka - 94 Nissan Skyline, 2.5GTS Turbo: Charcoal Grey, 4 door. Great condition, well main-tained. 17* tires, nice stereo with 6 disc CD changer and much more. \$2,800 OBO. Call Joe at 0468-96-4425.

New 2004 Mercedes C230, Silver, 4DR, 10.5 mi., Manhu. warranty Moon root, 6 chg CD. All power: New 538.5K, Will take SJK: Sawe 57K. Call Mike in Yokosuka, 080-5004-2619, DSN

Yokosuka - Silver 92 Toyota Ceres with tinted windows, child safety door locks and AC-LICI & Japan Inspection Good till Au-gust 2005. Runs Greatl Asking \$2000/0b. POC: Jose 080-3028-5464 or DSN 243-6608.

Yokota - 1989 Toyota TownAce Van \$1,500. Runs great, Auto-matic, AIC, power windows and locks. JCI good until Jan 2006. call John at 225-7073 or Alison at 227-7767.

Vokota - 1992 Toyota Town Ace Van - CD player, new tires, power locks, power windows, two moon rooks, much more. JCI until April 2005, \$3,225.00 OBO. Call 227-2838.

cokta - 1993 Toyota Hiltor Surf. ower windows, Power Locks, unroof AC/Heat, CD player th Hybrid GPS/TV System, 4 /D, Waterproof floor cover for argo area. JCI valid unit clober 2006. Asking \$4,200 or set offer. Point of Contact is lima Wiltz, 227-5998 or 24,2000?

Yokota - Honda Integra, 1997, Silver, 2 Door, JCl Until April 2006, MP3 Player, Automatic Windows/Locks, Excellent Con-dition, Must Sell Immediately, \$2,000.00, Call 227-3182 For More Details!

Zama - 1990 Toyota Lite Ace Van. Automatic, AC, Power Windows and Locks, JCI until May 2005. Sell for \$1000.00. Call 267-6129 after 6 PM or e-mail tofamily@wta.att.ne.jp

Zama - 1992 Mercedes Benz, 190E Dark Grey, PW, PL, Tilt, PS. The JCI is good until Sep 05. Will sell for \$3,000. Contact Myriam 263-8660 after 7:00pm

Autos for Sale Autos for Sale Korea

Zama - 92 Toyota Corolla: AIC, anti-lock, CD/cassette player, 49,000 km, JCI until April 2005. Recently Inspected. Call 263-4488/7339 and leave a message or make an ofter

Zama - 95 Mitsubishi Pajero Jr. 4-wheel-drive, automatic, power 4-wheel-crive, automate, per-window and lock, 4 speakers, AM/FM/CD/MD, JCI until Dec. 2006 \$2,800 OBO. Call Brian at 263-8650 or 080-5431-3365 or

Autos for Sale

Daegu/Waegwan - 1997 Mus-tang Cobra White, Black Leather seats, 57K miles, Very Clean/Good Condition. 12K. Call Joe at 011-9255-5545 or Email: USAHD1@hotmail.com

Korea - 1996 KIA Pregio 9-Person Van. Automatic Trans-mission. Diesel. Blue with Gray Stripe. 170,000Km. New tres in Sep 2004. Qualifies for the express bus lane. \$2900 OBO. Call Steve or Dana at 031-664-7043 (Home) or DSN 784-5232 (Work).

Kurnam-2001 Hyundial Sonatal GVSV Sandard Trans, White, ABS.AC. 90.000km, Custom Black Leather Interior, New Brakes, New Gor Ighth, New Sander, New Sonaton, New Sander, New Sonaton, New Imming belt, Great Shero sys-tem, (CD1aps-0AM-H), alarm system, Remote auto lock and start. Air Cleaner, very smooth note! Engine very clean, Well Ison. 189,000 Call Steven, 010-3943-0201

Osan - 1999 BMW 323i. Superb condition. Must see to appreciate. US specs. Black with black leather interior and maple hardwood trim. Surroof, 6 CD changer, aluminum wheels. \$17000. 031-611-1351 (hp).011-709-3351 (cp).

Pusan- 1999 Pontiac Firebird (Formula) 5.7L V-8, Black, 69K Miles, Auto, ABS, 12 CD C h a n g e r , \$1 0 , 50 0 . 0 1 0 - 8 6 7 1 - 4 2 8 1 , jack1963back@yahoo.com

Yongsan - 1994 Hyundal Sonata II, 4 door sedan, 5 Speed, A/C, Power Windows/Locks. We PCS in Jan. \$800. DSN 723-4269 or 736-7575

Yongsan - 2002 Ford F150 XLT Longbed Pick-up truck, 4X4, FX4 Offinad package, Camper shell, Dark Blue Metallic, 35k miles, 5-4 liter V-8, Auto, ABS, AC, Titwheel, Captains chairs, PW, PDL, CC, AM/FM Cass - 6 disc CD, Excellent condition, nuns & drives creat 5-24 000

646-2350 for more information

Foster - 1994 Honda Civic 4 dr. \$1500 OBO Just purchased large family van and need to sell Civic. Great condition runs ex-cellent. Originally purchased from Johnny's Used Car Lot. Motivated to sell and willing to negotiate. Call 646-8738 if inter-ested. disc CD, Excellent condition runs & drives great. \$24,000 0 1 0 - 4 7 2 3 - 2 1 5 7

Autos for Sale - Okinawa

152 Foster - 1994 Honda Inspire pearl color, 5 cylinder, automat lc, 4-door, sunrool, tinted win dows, rims, wheels, CD player cold AC, power windows and locks. \$2100 obo. Cal 645-4978. A must see!!

dation, JCI April 2006, Cold AC, automatic climate control, linted windows. \$2,500.00 willing to negotiate Call Mike @ work 645-2225, Westpac 645-2255 Ext. 4430 or cell 090-7587-2651.

Foster - 89 Toyota Town Ace: JCI until Mar 2006, dark gray with deep tinted windows. Single CD Player. \$1500. A must seel PCS'ng end of December cal Robert at 646-5672.

Foster - 91 CRX Red new full body kit new wheels fiberolass new wheels fiberglass ers. Got to go \$2000 OBO. Call 646-2350. Foster - 91 Pajero great condi-tion brand new JCI, diesel great on fuel. \$2800 Call 646-2350.

Foster - 91 Toyota Surf. JCI good until Nov. 2006. \$3000.00 or best offer. Good condition. CD Player, A/C, power windows. Please contact William or Je-nene @ 645-2780 or wilnjen716@hotmail.com.

Foster - 1989 Toyota Surt: 4 door, sunroof, 4 wheel drive, 4 cylinder, automatic, AMPIM CD, power windows, locks, JCI due 11/06. EMRFGENCY Unexpected PCS sale \$2500 obo for guick sale 646-4158 or stickinawa@yahoo.com Foster - 94 Toyota Carina ED: Power window, door looks, rotors just turned, moon-roof, ice cold A/C, runs great, very clean, non-smoker, JCI until Sept 2005. \$2,500.00 OBO Call Foster - 1991 Honda CRX full body lot, cold air intake, and chrome wheels, great condition in and out. Too many cars got to go \$1800.00 OBO call 646-2350 090 6860 3991 or email christynedward @ hotmail. com for pictures 646-4963 (H) leave messag 646-4963 (H) leave message.
Foster - 96 Nissan Laurei: Cold AVC, CD Player, Clean Interior, Runs Great. JCI 8/06. Can be viewed at Westpac Inn. Asking \$2700 OBO. Call Dee @ 646-6422 or e mail

great condition, too many cars got to go soon \$2800.00 OBO 646-2350 090 6960 3891 or email christynedward@hotmail. com for pictures. Foster - NISSAN C33 LAUREL: JCI Suspension, Screamer Pipe, GTR Fuel/Water Pump, and Foster - Niconin Coo Entermander Pipi JCI Suspension, Scramer Pipi GTR FueliWater Pump, an Trust 1. Smm Head Gasket, Hil Body Kit, MT, Nismo Mote Mount & more, go to www mid nightillu sion com/laurel4sale.htm \$3.50 com for pictules.

Foster - 1993 silver Skyline asking \$1,800.00 OBO, (Flexible) JCI until April 2005. I can JCI for longer. New tires, CD player, A/C. Must drive to appreciate. VEFY Related Clean interior. PCSIng and must est. ijmmel55 diyahoc.com or call 646-5404 for more information.

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200

220

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Autos for Sale - Okinawa Kadena - 1986 Toyota Town Ace: JCl good until Oct. 2006 diesel 4X4 van, runs great. Al-hot-cold box. Excellent van for diving, camping or hauling mo-torcycles. \$1200 OBO. Call Todd or Linda 633-6737. Todd or Linda 633-6737. Kadena - 1989 Skyline GTS-T: Speed its mostly stock need to get rid of. I have a few attermarket parts too much to list call me for details at 633-9930 ask for James or omail at james.sims@kadena.al.

Kadena - 1990 4-wilde door Green Surf with grey Interior. Excellent Condition. Power Steering, Door Locks and Win-dows. A/C works great. JCI June 2006 3300 Call (W) 364-0693 or Cell 900-1947-2393 please leave a voice message if unavailable.

Kadena - 1990 Skyline GTS-T, Turbo timer, HKS air intake, blitz Blow off valve, 5-speed, Car runs great, just selling to get bigger vehicle for family. \$2,000 obo Call Lee 098-935-0027 or 634-1144

Kadena - 1990 Toyota Pickup Diesel: Sspeed, lifted 77/35* Baggers/Rancho shocks, greyl4-door, 53,700. OBO Call Cyrus 633-2210 or 090-6861-6394 for pictures email cyrus.medeiros@kadena.

at.mil Kadena - 1990 Toyota Town Ace body and interior in good shape, runs well, cold AIC, AMIFM cassette, willing to add uninstalled CD player, great family or souba diving whicle—\$1500 OBO, Call 633-9004 ask for Glien or Nicole.

Kadena - 1991 blue Chariot. Runs Well. \$2,800. Call 633-0423.

633-0423.

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Sust: Blue 4X4. XCI good
brough Agel 2000, power with
coloning, All 4 tires brand new,
Fog lights, FMMM steroe with
CD player, \$3,500 bob Call for
more inches.

090-1949-9356

Kadena - 1991 Toyota Surf.
Green, tinted windows, surroot.
CD player, in very good condi-tion. Asking 4500.00. Please call
Bobby or Brandi at 633-0851 or email at gresh82@oasis.mediat-ti net

Kadena - 1992 Toyota Town Ace with Skylight roof. Dark Blue/Gray. Great Shape. Seats 7. New Front Tires. JCI until Jun 2005. \$2,250.00 Call 633-6005 Kadena - 1993 Mark III Tourer V: Dark Hunter green (looks black at night). 1868 km, recent tune up. new panel speakers all around, HKS springs, HKS Intake, RSR exhaust, 18 in rims. \$4,000.00 or OBO. Call 633-3711 or 080-1717-1160

Autos for Sale - Okinawa

Kadena · 1993 Toyota Windom less than 50,000 km. LCI till July 2006, CD player, Rockford Fosgate Amp & Subwootlers. New tires, Brakes & CV boots when JCTd. \$3,500. with stereo equipment \$3000 with factory stereo. Call 632-3577 ask for Jack or Missie

Kadena - 1993 White Toyota Levin For Salel Has extra set of wheels, RSR lowering springs, and GP Sports exhaust and 6-disk CD Changer. JCI until Nov. 2004. Make an offer I can't refuse. Call Cheyenne (W)-634-6120 (H) 646-4370 or E-Mail cheyenne.mcneely@kadena.af. mil

Kadena - 1994 Honda Accord Wagon. Black/Blue. Great Shape. New brakes/CV Boots. Cold A/C. JCI until July 2005. \$2750.00 Call 633-6005. Kadena 1990 Honda 4 door Convertible, marcon wiblack albeit, and Rosa 1895 pol Astra: 2005, good car, first \$900 can albeit, call Pen at 1893 PSB of convertible, marcon wiblack albeit, and Rosa 1893 PSB of convertible, marcon wiblack albeit, and Rosa 1893 PSB of convertible 4 cylinder, A/C, power List of the Convertible 5 cylinder, A/C, power List of the Convertible 6 cylinder, A/C, power List of t

car, \$5,000 call 633-4545.

Kadena - 1995 Red Nissan
Silvia: 2-door, great condition,
cold AIC, CD player, JCI until
Feb. 2005. Asking \$3500 ebo,
we just need a larger car. Would
consider trade for 4door car or
larger vehicle
paulandbritt@yahoo.com or call
633-4124. 633-4124.

633-4126.

Kadena - 1995 Toyota Mark II
Tourer V, JCI Feb 2006, fully loaded & very clean, perfective production of the control of the contro

month through dealer. Call 899-7703. Kadena - 1996 Toyota Cynos: Beauthul silver 2-door car with CD stereo and cold ArC. 3Cl until April 2005. Asking \$1700 no. Email nicochen properties and sales and sales a manual silver and sales a Kadena - 2004 Corolla 9,500 miles \$16k OBO. Call David @

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09075866947

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4-doors, V6-3000, gas,
AMFMCase/CD, Backup alaruAdjacent Suspension, Tow Pkg,
7-Seats, Hardy Driven, Clean &
Great Vehicle, \$5,000 Call
Dave/Judith 633-0072 or
090-0803-5500.

Autos for Sale - Okinawa

Kadena - 94 Toyota Surf 4x4: Burgundy, automatic, cold A/C. Engine and body in great condition. Cl until Jul 2005: Will throw in Sub Wolf and Amp, Must sell PCSing \$3, 700 cbc. Call to make offer Laban 634-7999, or email laban. hickling@kadena.af.mi

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Kadena AB- Gold, 1993 Toyota
Windom: Just purchased in
February '04: Superior Condition
and rides very smooth, JCI until
Feb '06, Many accessories
including a 10-disc CD changer.
Asking for \$3500 OBD, PCSing
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Janice@tb4.so-net.net for pics. Kadena - DIVORCE SALEI Charcoal 1992 Honda Prelude V-Tech 5 speed, H22A engine, spoller, and sunnord, digital CD player, cold AC, power every-thing, new battery, JCI until Aug. 2005. Asking \$2,200.00 or make an ofter Call 633-0179 or email deejo980@hotmail.com for a

test drive. Kadena - FREE!!! Automatic Nissan Pulsar Halchback Runs good JCI until Feb. 2005. Come get it. Call Jason or Misty at 632-0012.

\$52-0012

Xadsena - LOOKYI - LOOKYI - LOOKYI - 1996 Nissan Prairie Joy Great - Lamily car - JCI i spod till Spett - 2006. \$3,000.00 (BIO. Contact maglicias) & 60.000.00 (BIO. Contact maglicias) & 60.000.00 (BIO. Contact maglicias) & 60.000.00 (BIO. Contact National Contact - Kadena - PCS MUST SELL Toyota Hilux Surf Gold Edit. SSR-G V-6, power locks, win-dows, power sunrod, 4 dor-JCI Due Nov 05, A/C recharge

July 04, am/fm and CD player, RUNS GREAT! \$3800.00 OBO, Call 633-1674 or email bellemass2@yahoo.com Kadena - R33 Skyline for sale: Must go immediately, \$1,000.00 or take over payments of \$176.00 N.A. automatic, UT is good until August 2005. Contact joe.cain@kadena.af.mil or call 633-3223.

833-3225.

Kadena - S14 Silvia Turbo:
2year JCI, S15 front end
conversion, Eclipse Deckty
MD, CC, Radio, DVD player,
R32GTR seats intrilly capa
super single plate dutch, etc.
asking \$8500 obo. Interested?
Call 633-8422 or email

japanapoe wyanoo.zom Kinser - 1991 Gray Toyota Corona for salel JCI due March 2006. Owned for 3 years and never had a problem. Runs great, interior nice and clara-\$90,00 Call or email with any que stil on s. 637-2969 malave@konnect.net I Would hate to junk a perfectly good vehicle!!

Kinser - 1991 Nissan Skyline GTS: 5-speed tyranny. No A/C. Runs good. JCI expires Feb. 2005. Awalable after Dec. 4. Nice rims/lires. 4-door. Call James @ 637-390 or email thornforig@3fssg.usmc.mil

Autos for Sale - Okinawa

Kinser-1991 Toyota Master Ace Van 4WD. 72,000 km, Seats 7. AC & Heater work great. CD with removable face. Power Windows & Locks. JCI good until May 2006. \$2000 OBO. Call 090-6163-4624.

Kinser - 1994 Honda Integra 4 door, with only 60,500 killod Car runs and drives great. Fully loaded with good A/C and CD player. \$1,400.00 obc. JCI due July 05. Call Tim at 637-4299 (H) or 637-4694 (W).

Kinser - 1994 Nissan Silvia, Pearl, Automatic asking \$2000 and Take Over Payments. JCI is due August 2006. Runs Great, very Cold A/C. Call Sgt Simmons at 637-2957 (work) or 090-5949-2465 (cell). Email at pak, mann 8/yahoo.com or sim-monsid 6/3/ssg.usmc.mil for pic-tures.

Kinser - 1996 Honda Civic: 4-doors, gray, power everything, low miles (50K), family owned, excellent condition, JCI expires Dec 2006, CD Player, \$1,800, call 090 9789 9098 or 637-1384 ask for Dwayne.

sex for Dwayne.

Kineer - 91 Toyota Surf \$2500
DBO JCI umili Nov. 2006
mindows 201 umili Nov. 2006
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BS7-4894 (W) of BS7-4259 (H).
Kinser - 94 Skyline GTS-t. A
must see. A great X-Mass gift
for him or her. Turbo timer, GTR
ground effects, Custom Vinyl
design, tint, CD player, Cold
AC, Recently Tunned up, New
Pear Tires, etc \$6500 GBD call
537-4386 or 500 BZ94 1554 or
email jennist 64 dyshoo.com

Kinser - Need to Sell By Next Weekl 1993 Nissan Silvia: JCI due Aug 2006. Asking \$2000 and Take over payments. \$1500 left to be paid, next payment due Feb. Great Carl Call (H) 637-3070, (W) 637-2957, and cell 090-5949-2465 or email paik_mann@yahoo.com

Lester - 1995 Honda Accord, silver, great condition. Pur-chased in Sep 04. JCI expires Sep 06. 90,000 kilometers. Must sell. Too big for my garage. \$3700. Call Marganet. Home 936-8095, cell 090-8866-1611.

Okinawa - 94 Nissan Primera, JCI 4/05, PCSing Dec. Must s e II. \$1,300 OBO 090-7587-7518

Toril Station -1993 Euros Road-ster (Miata) Black Int./Est. Hard top and (Soft top w glass window). Kenwood stereo(cas-sette CD, Ice Cold AC, JCI Good until August 2006, Fun car to drive, great gas mileage to drive, great gas mileage Asking \$4,700.00 OBO! Call DAN at 926-0206 or 644-5499 TORII STATION:--Black 1991 Honda Inspire, 4-door, Automat-ic Transmission, Power Seat, JCI April 2006, Runs Great. Available 14 Dec 04. \$1,500.00. C all 544-4535 or 090-6861-5999. Autos for Sale - Okinawa 152

thite Beach - Toyota Town Ace nuck: Great for Hauling Motor X (kes/ATV's or anything elso las a trailer hitch. JCI is good ntil April 2005. Asking \$500 b. Call 090-1705-5699 or mail: ken.weakley@cfao.navy.

Autos Wanted 156

Kadena - American Car Wanted I don't care as long as it runs good. Contact John & 632-3284, 634-6735/6736 or 090-6865-0765 Kadena, Okinawa - Looking for any type of car either free or anything under a 1000 really want a car and need one to get to work please call 633-7726

Motorcyles - Japan 166

Waterstampussers
for more inform.

Yokozuka - 2000 Honda Firetorm (VTR 1000F). Excellent
running machine. Loads of
a 1996cc V-twin engine. Inspection
good until August 2006 and JCI
good until August 2006 and JCI
Good (negotiable). Call
Chaid at 090-5488-7185 Chad at 080-5468-7185

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Davidson Softali Standard:
Many extra accessories, complete chrome packaga, custom
sast, "HighPer" cripine path
cooler, V&H Pro Pipe, Always
covered in a "Cycle Shall", no
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Yokota - Harley-davidson 2004 FLST FATBOY. Less then 200 miles. Brand-new - 2 years JCI-smokeygold/black. \$18k 227-7143 090-6043-9752 -- 2004 Buell XB12S, 2000 miles, JCl until August 2006, \$9,800.00. Call 227,9393

Motorcyles - Korea 168

Korea - 2003 Harley Davidson 100th Anniversary 1200XL Cus-tom, Gunmetal Pearl, 850 Miles, Mint Condition. 5 8,800 Firm, Clean Title. Call Mike at DSN 736-3015 or 011-9250-3498 clarkmtc@hotmail.com

Yongsan - Daelim VR 125 Motorcycle. Runs great \$450. Call 011-9690-8611

Motorcyles

conrady@nirai.ne.jp for more info/pics or call 090-7464-5340. Kadena - 2001 Harley Davidson 883 Sporster upgraded to 1200, Blue, after marriet forward controls, exhaust, seat, chrome, and more. Do not have time to ride or maintain, First \$6,000 can have it, email me at laurence.littleton@kadena.af.mil Kadena - Harley Davidson oil change, hand detail, minor tune up, parts included, \$125, last week at this price. Call 633-2446. Motorcyles - Okinawa

Radena - Cleanest bite on trainandill 1977 Honda Super 45 central 1978 Collector's edition. JCI is good until Aug. 06. Bought 4months ago for \$3500 by the state of the state of the state of the \$3200. a steal at this price. Willing to negotiate. Call 1978 Lane at 633-1454 (h) before 2000 please, 634-0331(W) or \$552.00 before 050-03794-2085(H) - 634-0331(H) or 634-0331

or 634-0331(W).

Addena, Okinawa - 2000 Yarnaban YZ125 Mobecosa Bike: Boban YZ125 Mobecosa Bike: Boban YZ125 Mobecosa Bike: Boban YZ125 Mobecosa Bike: Boban YZ100 Call Craig &
633-258 g or e m all
bakers58 Goadis mediatili.net

Kadena, Okinawa - Pocket Bike!
SCCC, 1 year old, red, racing
sick lims, if a a biast \$200 Call
sick lims, if a a biast \$200 Call
not red, if a g biast \$200 Call
and the company of the comp

Okinawa - 1996 Honda Homel 250CC/Color: Red. In excellent Conditions/ No JCI required. Asking: \$2,200 OBO. Call Ed-win: 090-9787-4428/ 098-926-0870 e-mail: ventura@rapid-link.ne.jp

Auto Parts 180

Rev Speed Meter for sale, \$150.00. Call 090-2590-3490, 646-2184, or email me at jonj0n@midnightillusion.com Foster, Okinawa - EXHAUST: A31 Ceffro, C33 Laurel, Straight back, no pro-maffler, canister style. \$60.0 O.B.O. Call 090-2580-3490, 646-2184 or email jonj0n@midnightillusion.com

Kadena - Garmin hand held GPS 72: \$100. Call Scott 632-3576.

Kadena, Okinawa - 4-16 inch rims, with tires 205/55/16, 2enkie RF1 17 inch (205/40/17), 2enkie RF1, 2-18 inch rims tires. EMAIL for pictures. 633-6056, cell 090-978-19660. Thanks R y a n e m a i l ryanloughrin @yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - BRAND NEW: Delorme Earthmate GPS receiver, USB Cable; Street Atlas USA 2004 Getting started with Earth mate GPS, Earth-mate GPS is ideal for business travel, family trips, with Earth-mate GPS; you'll never get lost again. \$120 Call 633-6759. Kadena, Okinawa - Car Stereo: Kerreood KRC-888 Cassette receiver, black, 45ev x4, remova-ble taceplate, Dolby BIC, direct program search, front/inear pre-out RCA jacks For adding amp \$35 call 633-4034 or turpin_s@hotmail.com

5 1/4" Rockford Fosgate speak-ers as well as some 6 1/2" 3-watt speaker by Kenwood for sale. \$20.00 a piece. I also have a 150-watt alpha sonic amp for only \$30.00. Call 632-3157 or 090-1179-3493.

Kadena, Okinawa - I have stock r32 skyline parts for sale including suspension, side mount intercolor, and flywheel and stock cat and down pice great for JCI. I also have r31 rb20 valve covers for sale. Email me with your offer thx brandon. kent@kadena.al.mil

Kadena Okinawa - Kenwood

Auto Parts 180 Kadena - Set of four 33 X 12.5 X 15 tires mounted on chrome rims. Came off Toyota Surf. \$100 Call Ron 633-2620 or email roberts7@oasis.mediatti.

Baby Items

Kadena, Okinawa - Moving Salel!! Bouncy seat with vibration \$15 OBO Baby Swing \$25 various baby and toddier loys \$1.55 If interested please call Desiree & 633-4269 or email me at gnjapan@kda.attmil.ne.jp Courtney-Assorted Infant cloth-ing, excellent condition! Carter's, Old Navy, baby Gap, Gerber and Oshgosh. Only worn 2 or 3 times because my son grew so tast. Includes 1 bathrobe, 4 towels, 4 blankets, 13 orsies, 2 carsaat headrests, 23 pairs of

Kinser, Okinawa - White Batiste Portable Bassinet's Cradle Excellent condition \$45.00 OBC Call 637-4386 or 090 8294 1554 or jenn8164 @yahoo.com Foster, Okinawa - Avent breast pump, used for 6 weeks, comes with 4 breast milk containment (unopened), pump, cols/warm packs, carrying case, exprension pump parts still in plastic. Asking \$30 - firm. Email for pictures cidorton® dossis, mediatili.net or call Tracy 646-5772 malave@konnect.net

Yokota, Japan - Back carrier, \$25; playpen, \$25; stroller, \$15; car seat, \$15; exersaucer, \$15; high chair, \$10; gate, \$5 each; recliner seat, \$5; bathtub, \$5. Call 227-2094. i-4158 or email inawa@yahoo.com Foster, Okinawa - Boys Toddler Bedding set - Blues Clues, comforter, flat sheet, fitted clues size sheet, pillow case, wall border and wall cling-one's. Buyer must take everything! Asking \$40. Email for pictures cotorion 80 casts, mediatin that or Zama, Japan - Baby's toys and clothing for sale: PCS'ing soon, need to sell. Call Lorena at 633-6102. Bicvcles call Tracy 646-5772

Foster, Okinawa - Crib for sale-comes with mattress, mattress pad, and 3 white crib sheets. Asking \$4.0 Email for pictures ctdorton@oasis.mediatti.net or call Tracy 646-5772 Sagamihara, Japan - Japanese style girls' bike: Pink with baske and bell, never used, paid \$100 and asking \$45. Call 267-6368. Book Stores Foster, Okinawa - Graco Swing: Open top 6-speed battery oper-ated with tunes and removable toy bar. Never used \$60 firm call 646-4158 or email stlokinawa@yahoo.com

Foster, Okinawa - Infant car seat/carrier for sale with base for car. In great condition. Light blue & light green plaid. Has adjustable umbrella. Used for few months! \$35 obe email singlenomore77@hotmail.com or cal! 646-6829/ 646-5887.
Futenma, Okinawa - All Books are mint condition: The Lanc and its People \$20. The College Handbook of Creative Writing 3ed \$25. Call Nelson at 636-3018 (W) or 646-4588 (H)

090-6163-5036.

Foster, Okinawa - Looking for double jogging stroller in good condition. Willing to pay \$\$ for it. Needs to be in good condition. Call 646-6439 or email malachil @oaste.mediath.net mil Futerma, Okinawa - All books are mint coodition. Nippon. Elements of Argument 6, 540; Human Communication 9ed, 545; Management Communication, \$35; Programming and Problem Solving with C++ 2ed (545-5018 (W) or 646-4588 (H) or. Email: romannf@ Imaw. usmc.mil Kadena - Graco battery operat-ed swing \$15, White disper changing table \$15, Graco infant car seat wbase \$15, Johnny Jumper \$10, Boppy pillow \$5, Bath seat \$5. Call Deanna & 6733-1424

ment seat SS. Call Deanna 'e'
633-1424.
Kadena, Okinawa Crib and
Dresser in one: White, mattress
included. Can be converted into
included Can be converted into
inversect69 8 hotmail com for a
pricture or call 653-8218 for more
information. Also have a lot of
baby clothes, all in good condition, will throw in for free are mint condition - Network + Certification 2ed Training Kit Includes CD, \$60; Business Communication Today, \$40; Fundamental Accounting Princi-ples, \$60. Call Nelson at \$36-3018 (W) or 646-4588 (H) or Email romannt@1maw.usmc. mil

Toril station, Okinawa - UMUC ACCT 220 and 221 Textbooks: Sale at \$50.00 new condition with software. Call Rick at 633-1505 or 644-5529. Also have HST 356 Textbooks call for offer. Kadena, Okinawa - First years sleep positional, First Years co-sleeper (barely used) and Safety 1st baby bouncer with toy attachment. \$30. Call Jennifer @ 632-3576.

tor other.

Yokotta, Japan - BMGT 364, management, 550; BMGT 369, Business Law today, 560; BMGT 483, business A Government in the Global Market of the Global Market and the Global Market 360; Communication, \$40; GVPT 401, Understanding International conflicts and Great Decision, \$40. Call 227-8346. 6 632-9376.
Kadona, Okinawa - Light brown orb: Adjustable mattress height, and the state of the

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Courtney - Maternity Shirts, sizes medium-large all great condition, \$5 each or \$50 for all 11 of them. 6225455 or email joseph_moglinis@hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Name brand maternity clothes: Most are from Old Navy or Motherhood. Only worn for one pregnancy. Call Shella at 633-8342 or email

Foster, Okinawa - Dell OptiPlex GX200, 1.0 GHZ, 256MB-RAM, 20GB-HDD, Win XP Pro, Off XP, NAV, CD-ROM, 250MB-Zip, XP, Pall Mon. Keyboard RP, NAV, CD-HOM, 250MB-2p, Floppy, 17° Dell Mon, Keyboard, mouse, Speakers, all for only \$ 2 8 0 . 0 0 . E m a i 1 ersean0930@yahoo.com or call

Kadena, Okinawa - I have a desktop computer video card for sale. ATI Radon 9000 Pro, less then a year old. Just upgraded. Asking \$50-575 for the card. Just plug it in and install the software updates and go. Call Dan at 930-5950 or email me at daniel meyer Wadena. Amil





Courtney, Okinawa - Fire Truck toddler bed for sale (w/out mattress) in very good condition. Sells \$200+ in PX will let go for \$75. If interested call (H) 622-8560 or (W) 623-7310. Foster, Okinawa- 1 black glide rocker/recliner with ottoman \$50, excellent condition. Please call Debbie at 646-8213.

Foster, Okinawa - Black coffee table with 4 glass top panels about 3ft square 550 call 646-4158 or email sflokinawa@yahoo.com

Foster, Okinawa - Queen size bed - mattress, and box spring had since March. Headfloot made out of like iron railing nightstand and desser paid \$2500 for all on sale but will sell for \$800 Email candice. mitchell@kaden.asf.mil or call 546-2071

Kadena - For Sale 1 Dark Blue Material Lay-Z-Boy recliner. X-L-ent condition and super com-fortable. \$200 OBO. Confact Kayol or Cody @ 633-6107 or

skbarton@aol.com.

skbarton@aol.com.

Kadena - FUTON - wood with black frame good condition, 850 Sola Table or hall table: 575 call 6 3 3 · 8 13 3 or em a li shellmill@yahoo.com for a picture.

Kadena, Okinawa - Dark navy blue Rocking Recliner for sale. Asking \$150, call 633-1513 interested.

Kadena, Okinawa - King sizer mattress and box spring, Mat tress is a pillow top. Box spring-are brand new and both piece-are in great shape. Asking \$10 for the set. Call 633-1513

for the set. Call 633-1513 if interested.

Kadena, Okinawa - Looking for a cheap or free queen size bed frame. It got to be a nice one. Will pay for what its worth. If interested call at 632-3202 or e-mail at Ryan20_02-81yahoo.com.

Kadena, Okinawa - SOFA & LOVESEAT cream color, \$175

for pictures. Kadena, Okinawa - Tall and sturdy Korean chest/dresser for sale: Asking price \$600 OBO. Call 633-6290 evenings.

632-3576

Kadena, Okinawa - Glass dining room table with 4 chairs: Only used twice since bought. Asking \$400. If interested call Rose & 634-3278 or 937-0844.

Courtney, Okinawa - JVC Digital Video Camera with extra battery/case/remote/software and all cables \$300 Call Mike 622-8235.

Foster, Okinawa - Like new Sony Net MD Walkman MZ-N42DD: Headphones and pro-gram disk included. \$75.00 OBO. Contact 645-4228. Foster, Okinawa - Play station 1 comes with 2 controllers and 11 names (mostly sports names) games (mostly sports games) absolute bargain for \$50 call 646-4158 or email stlokinawa@yahoo.com Foster, Okinawa - Sharp Re-ceiver with built in DVD player. Sells for \$450 at the BX in the States. Will sell for \$200. Works great just don't need anymore. Call 645-5587.

Nadena, Okinawa - 27° JVC Flat Screen TV: 1-year-old good condition. Purchased new last year for \$500, will sell for \$150. Call 633-2283 for details. Kadena, Okinawa - 34" wide screen Panasonic HDTV in perfect condition. 950 obs selss for 1300 at BX if interested call Johnson at 9567501 or 634-8207.

Kadena, Okinawa - I have a FUSION box with two tens and a 300 watt amp already mounted on box for sale. Paid 300.00 for both, will sell for \$140.00. Power wires and speaker wires included. Call 632-3157. Kadena, Okinawa - Link DMP-120 MP3 Player: 64Mb. \$50 call \$300 obo. call 622-5319 & they

Home Electronics 570

too. \$85 Call 633-6512.

Kadena, Okinawa - NEW, only used for a few weeks HCT digital CD player with rado and trendy design. 8 speakers in 2 boxes and 2 subs. Great Christmas present \$40 Call Cassie 633-8906 or email air_forco_wifey@hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa - One Hitachi VT-UX64400AW VHS player with tuner light use with remote control, \$35, One JVC - XV-S300BK DVD player one year old with remote, \$40, One Sony Maxica FD73 great pictures direct to disc \$40. Call 533-1830.

Call Scott & 632-5576

Kadena, Chinawa - Sony receiver 5-disc CD changer, and tape dock Selling all for \$400.00 or 5-disc CD changer, and tape dock Selling all for \$400.00 or 544-5528.

Kadena, Chinama - VTC ATC With wiring harmes. Bise face. Perfect condition. Sells at Slasks for \$400. Biy it from me at 5-mail smootly, more defaulation of the control of the contr Kadena, Okinawa - Brand new desk lamp: Still in package 9.75' tall wonderful Christmas gift. This is not a gosseneck lamp it is like a miniature table lamp, with a rustic style. Comes with light-bulb 57 Email for pictures air_force_wifey@hotmail.com or call 633-6906

details.

Velocia, Japan - JVC PX-888
VBK DDDTS, stereo receiver
with remote corrol, \$250. Call
227-2792.

Zama, Japan - X-Box Gaming
System for sale, excellent consition, comes with DVD Kt, 20
controllers, (1) steering wheel
row Wind, Star Warr, Need for
VFG Paccing, and original boxes. Asking \$100 or OBD.
Call 263-8941 or email isonardo, garramone@ tou, army, mil.

\$1,700.00 OBC. Call 633-2774.

Kadsana, Cidrawar - Marcuse ongagement reg with matching on the consideration of th

Osan, Korea - Beautiful 14kt White Gold Engagement Ping: 5 diamonds set into ring tolar carats 1.00 Size 8. Bought at Zales in US for \$2100.00 Will sell for \$1600.00 GEO. Email andrea.stanei&us.army.mil or call 122-761&

Jobs Offered

mercond leadback free. Call St. 2018 and St.

Musical Instruments 740

Foster, Okinawa - Free to good home, female black Labrador. PCSing, forced to find a home. Great dog. JKC registered, spayed. Please, I need to find a good home for a great family dog! Contact Todd at 933-0788 or 880-1087-8700 tor. Umbrella still in box unopened! New \$280 yours for \$175! Nice plush chair pillows and top glass table is nice! 646-6838 090-6163-5036 or e m a i

ess-6637 or 090-1949-4229.
Kadena, Okinawa - 85-100 feet chain link fence, with gate, poles, top ralls, and good condition, already pulled, you pick up. \$300.00 Call Nicole 632-3107 Must Sell!
Kadena, Okinawa - Access - 200

Kadena, Okinawa - Approx. 100 feet of fence, 1 gate, lots of accessories & poles, and some poles already cemented for you. We will pull for youl \$300 Cail 633-0294 or E-Mail ortega@k-da.attnil.pul.

Kadena, Okinawa - Murray Lawn Mower for sale. 20 inches cut, 3 1/2 horsepower. \$45.00. Call Bill at 633-0699. Kadena, Okinawa - Murray lawnmower: \$120 new, selling

Kadena, Okinawa - Set of white plastic converts benches for sale. Can be used alone as outdoor benches or combined as a picnic table. They were \$70 new and we are asking \$50 each OBO. Call 633-1513 if

630 Toys

moving 1 standing \$40 in BX yours only \$20! Still in box never opened! 646-6838, 090-6163-5036 or email rebekahmichael77@hotmail.

945

all for \$15. Call Michelle at 632-3527.

Walker, Korea - This Little Tikes triangular gym has lots of challenging climbing surfaces to explore. The fun side is over 4 long, Intentor platform is en-closed with high side walls. Asking \$20.00. Call: 011-501-772.

Zama, Japan - Pink Leapfrog Leap Pad for ages 4-8. With Leapfrog pink backpack & lots of books. Barely used, excellent condition. \$140 call Missie @ 632-3577.

Sporting Goods

Foster, Okinawa - 48 lbs. asst soft weights, \$40.00. 2 DIN to Yoke adapters, \$20.00 each. 2 piece 3mm custom wet suits used twice, XL male & Med. Female, \$100.00 each. 8-C UK light, big dry bag, regulator bags. Email meyers @oasis.me-datti.net or call 645-4277 Foster, Okinawa - \$60.00 Tram-poline, little rust on metal but in working condition. You pack and pickup and it's yours. Mike 646-3421.

Kadena, Okinawa - Crossbow for sale! Comes with everything you need to work out with. \$225 DBO call 633-6513.

Kadena, Okinawa - M Sherwood Silhouette BCD

Cast Mick of Party & 633-3729
Kadena, Oklamaw - Men's Body,
Glove 2 pc wet suit and drive
sikin \$175 OBO, black force fire
\$60, Mask + snorkel Tusa
Platina \$25, Mask + snorkel
Tusa Pano Geo new \$35, field
Sole dive boots \$15, Akons dive
bag wi shoulder straps \$25 take
it all \$300 OBO Call Todd
633-6737.

830

Photography

Toys

Courtney, Okinawa - Solid wood fire engine: perfect condition. Great Christmas present for your todder. Bought at Lake-shorelearning.com. Will sell for \$35. Call 622-6424 or email thtshatt@oasis.mediatti.net

\$100 Please Call 646-5757.

Foster, Okinawa - GREAT X-MAS GIFT! Leap Frog with 4 games! Like NEW. First \$40 gets it with bag! 646-6838, 090-6163-5036 or email rebekahmichael77@hotmail.

Courtney, Okinawa - Hewlett Packard 1.3 mp digital camera: Perfect for elementary school of 222-8225. S40 Call Misse 622-8225. Courtney, Okinawa · Sony Oy-ber shot 3.3maga pixel digital camera with 64 m memory stick camera with 64 m memory stick 622-8235. Kadena, Okinawa - Pro-Form Crosswalk GTS Treadmil bought 6 months ago only used twice great condition, brand new! Asking for \$250. Cal Jason or Eleina @ 633-2901 or e-mail at jeka4@oasis.medlatti.

en with accessories and some play food, excellent condition, paid \$70 new, asking \$30. 646-6152

Foster, Okinawa - Swan Lake Vongsan - Like new Barble Computer Games Great Made TP Tour golf to Kmas gift ideal in BX \$18 yours inon-PW. Only used two lotr only \$10.00 very till \$400 pc and \$100 pc amin Gold \$-300 pc and \$100 pc amin Gold \$-300 pc and \$100 pc amin Gold \$-300 pc

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2 USMC 1 USN 1 USN

Korea billets (Open Dec 04) Tokyo Journalist (immediate vacancy) Tokyo (Open Feb 05) Photo Journalist (Sep 05)

1 USN YN1 Tokyo Information Manager

Outdoor Living

(immediate vacancy) STARS STRIPES

Yokota AB- Fence-East side 132 ft. professionally built priva-cy fence-1 yr. old \$2500 Trampoline-14 ft. trampoline and safety netting \$250 (227-9275)

Foster, Okinawa - Free to good home(s), 1 fawn male Boxer, 1 brindle female boxer. PCSing, forced to find homes. Great dogs, registered, female is spayed. Will separate. Please, 1 need to find a good home for some great dogs! Contact Todd at 933-0788 or 080-1087-8700

SCOREBOARD

FN TV & Radio

Friday

erts 2:30 a m —NRA: litah at Phos AFN-Radio Korea, 10 eland at Detroit. AFN-Sports, Lm.—NBA: Clev a.m.—NBA: Cleveland at Detroit.

AFN-Atlantic, 11 a.m.—College basketball:
Ohio State at Texas Tech.

AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.—NBA: L.A. Lakers

I Sacramento.

AFN-Sports, 3 p.m.—NBA: Inside the NBA.

AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.—College basketba

shio State at Texas Tech (dld). AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.—NBA: Cleveland at De-roit (did).

Saturday

AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.—NBA: L.A. Lakers at Sacramento (dld). AFN-Sports, 9:30 a.m.—NBA: Denver at

Miami.
AFN radio Okinawa, Korea, 10 a.m.—NBA:
L.A. Cilopers at Minnesota.
AFN-Atlantic, 11 a.m.—College football:
NCAA Div. I-AA championship, James Madison vs. Montana at Chattanooga, Tenn.
AFN-Pacific/Korea, 1230 p.m.—NBA: Washington at L.A. Lakers.
AFN-Paperts, 1230 p.m.—NBA: Phoenix at

Seattle.

AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.—College football
NCAA Div. I-AA championship, James Madi
son vs. Montana at Chattanooga, Tenn AFN-Sports, 10 p.m.—NBA: Phoenix at Seat

All Times Japan and Korea Standard Time; dld indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

College basketball

AP Men's Top 25 fared

neurs 10p 25 fared
Tuesday

1. Illinois 0-0-0 did not play, Next: vs. Valparalis, Surviva,
2. Karisas (6-0) did not play, Next: vs.
South Carolina, Saturday,
3. Georpia Tech (6-0) did not play, Next: vs.
James Madison, Wednesday,
at UNI, Valundard (7-0) did not play, Next:
5. North Carolina 7-1 viii.

4. Okarioma State (7-0) did not play. Next: at UNLV, Saturday.
5. North Carolina (7-1) did not play. Next: at Virginia Tech, Sunday.
6. Wake Forest (7-1) did not play. Next: vs.

b. Wake Forest (7-1) did not play, Next: vs. lon, Wednesd day
 tillinois-Chicago 88-55. lext: vs. Oklahoma, Saturday.
 8. Syracuse (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. rezel, Saturday.
 9. Kentucky (6-1) did not play. Next: at No. 3 Louisville, Saturday.

9. Kentucky (3-1) did not play. Next: at No. 13 Louisville, Saturday.
10. Pittsburgh (7-0) did not play. Next: vs. Coppin State, Saturday.
11. Connecticut (4-1) did not play. Next: vs. Rice, Sunday.
12. North Carolina State (7-0) did not play. Next: vs. Louislama-Lafayette, Wednesday.

Louisville (6-1) beat North Carolin A&T 85-51. Next: vs. No. 9 Kentucky. Satur

13. Lousville (6-1) beat North Carolina (8-5). Near 1. No 9 Nemucky, Salur-My. Sell-Ment (8-1) deep not play. Next t Marquette, Salur-My. Sell-Ment (9-2) dinnet play. Next t Marquette, Salur-My. 10-2, dinnet play. Next t Marquette, Salur-My. 17. Alabarra (8-1) did not play. Next vs. West-m Carolina, Salur-My. 17. Alabarra (8-1) did not play. Next vs. No. 1 North Carolina Salue, Salur-My. 18. Washington (7-1) did not play. Next vs. No. 1 North Carolina Salue, Salur-My. 20. Mississippi Salur-Ga-Y-J did not play. 20. Mississippi Salur-Ga-Y-J did not play. Next vs. Delsaws Salur-Salur-Ga-Y-J did not play. Nost vs. Delsaws Salur-Salur-Ga-Y-J did not play. Next vs. Delsaws Salur-Salur-J did not play. Next vs. Delsaws Salur-Salu

Florida State, Sunday. 24. Virginia (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. Loy-ola Marymount, Thursday, Dec. 23. 25. Cincinnati (6-0) did not play. Next: vs. Northwestern State, Saturday.

Tuesday's men's scores

EAST Bethany,W.Va. 76, Hiram 70 Fairfield 68, Harvard 53 Farmingdale 85, CCNY 70 Mass.-Lowell 77, Stonehill 72 Philadelphia 93, Mercy, N.Y. 63 EAST Villanova 68, Fordham 47 SOUTH

Clemson 83, Norfolk St. 56
Duke 88, Ill.-Chicago 55
E. Kentucky 87, Greenville 62
Florida Atlantic 82, Campbell 59
Georgia College 73, Paine 56
Lane 100, North Alabama 93
Louisville 85, N. Carolina A&T 51 Oakwood 88, William Carey 87, OT Rollins 74, Webber 44 Rollins 74, Webber 44
South Carolina 72, South Florida 70
Sampa 68, Fayetteville St. 65
Tennessee 71, Alabama St. 45
Tennessee St. 86, Alabama A&M 67
Tusculum 81, King, Tenn. 75
MIDWEST
Augustana,Ill. 94, Cornell, Iowa 44

Augustana,iii. 94, Comeii, Iowa 44 Boston U. 63, Michigan 52 Clarke 72, Edgewood 58 Concordia, Moor, 115, Minn,-Morris 108, OT Defiance 91, Ober Defiance 91, Oberlin 65
Kalamazoo 65, Chicago 63
Mount St. Joseph 66, Kenyon 62
Mount Vernon Nazarene 80, Ohio St.-Marion 49
Nebraska-Kearney 87, Doane 62
S. Illinois 54, Wright St. 42 Siena 79, Youngstown St. 78, 401 St. Cloud St. 83, Upper Iowa 60 Walsh 78, Urbana 73

St. Cloud St. 83, Upper Iowa 60
Walsh 78, Urbana 73
SOUTHWEST
Arkansas Tech 65, Incarnate Word 58
Midwestern St. 96, SW Assemblies of God 64
Oral Roberts 78, N. Colorado 57
Sul Ross St. 79, Howard Payne 73
Let Mess
Oregon 73, Bethune-Cookman 65

St. Mary's, Cal. 73, San Diego St. 64 UC Irvine 70, Santa Clara 58

AP Women's Top 25 fared

Tuesday

1. LSU (9-0) beat No. 13 Minnesota 75-67.
ext: at Southwest Missouri State, Satur-

... acate, Satur-souri, Saturday. 3. Duke (8-1) did not play. Next: at Mis-sourille State, Wednesday. Soville State, Wednesday. The State of the vs. Georgia State at Mover.

Baylor (7-1) did not play. Next: at Wash-

6. Baylor (1-1) din or piay. Next: at Washington, Wednesday.

Ington, Wednesday.

Id or piay. Next: at Marquette. Sunday.

Ronnecticut (4-1) did not piay. Next: at No. 23 Arizona State, Tuesday.

9. Tennessee (5-2) did not piay. Next: at Louisiana Tech. Wednesday.

10. Ohio State (9-1) did not piay. Next: at 10. Ohio State (9-1) did not piay.

10. Ohio State (9-1) did not play. Next: at Cregon, Saturduse (8-1) did not play. Next: 11. Michigan State (8-1) did not play. Next vs. 12. Texas Tech (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Arkansas State at Las Vegas, Saturday. 13. Minnesota (8-2) lost to No. 15. UT-57-67. Next: vs. Drake, Thursday, Dec. 22. Next: Vs. Static Logo-files, Wednesday, Dec. 22. 15. Georgia (7-3) did not play. Next: at lona, Sunday.

UCLA (6-1) did not play. Next: at Illinois,

Sunday.
17. Vanderbilt (7-1) did not play. Next: vs.
BYU at Malibu, Calif., Monday.
18. Maryland (7-1) did not play. Next: vs.
Coppin State, Monday.
19. Houston (8-0) did not play. Next: at Hawaii, Thursday.

wali, Thursdad-2) did not play, Next: at Na-wali, Thursdad-2) did not play, Next: vs. No. 3 Duke at Indianapolis, Saturday, 21. DePaul (6-2) did not play, Next: at Northern Illinois, Wednesday, 22. Rutgers (5-2) did not play, Next: vs. Clemson, Saturday,

Clemson, Saturday. 23. Arizona State (7-1) did not play. Next: at New Mexico, Saturday. 24. Iowa (8-0) did not play. Next: at Drake, aturday. 25. Kansas State (5-2) did not play. Next: Alabama at Springfield, Mo., Saturday.

Tuesday's women's scores

EAST Boston U. 59, Harvard 52

Boston U. Sp. Harvard SZ.
Cabrin 147, Ruffers-Camden 45
Concordia, N.Y. 69, Nyack 7, 50
Concordia, Nyack 7, 50
Conc

South Carolina 88, Florida A&M 55
William Carey 70, Lambuth 54
MIDWEST
III.-Chicago 71, Northwestern 64

mi-Unicago / I, Nuskingum 48 Kenyon 61, Muskingum 48 LSU 75, Minnesota 67 Shawnee St. 82, Walsh 65 St. Francis, Ind. 87, Ind.-South Bend 84 W. Michigan 79, Michigan 62 Wis.-Green Bay 72, Wis.-Parkside 65 Wright St. 55, Akron 49 n St. 75, Buffalo 43 Howard Payne 71, Sul Ross St. 54
FAR WEST
New Mexico St. 49, UTEP 44

College football

Bowl glance Tuesday, Dec. 14 New Orleans Bowl

TANK McNamara

Tuesday, Dec. 21.
Champs Sports Bowl At Ordindo, Ruo.
Georgia Teel, (e.) S., Syncase (e. Georgia Teel, S., Syncase (e. Georgia Teel, S., Syncase (e.) S., Sy Tuesday, Dec. 21

vs. Hawaii (7-5)

Monday, Dec. 27

MPC Computers Box
At Boise, Idaho
Payout: \$750,000
ate (8-3) vs. Virginia ((8-3) vs. Virginia Motor City Bowl At Detroit

Fresno State (6-3) v.s. Virginia (6-3)
All Derboit
All Derboit
All Derboit
Toledo (9-3) Paysouti \$79,000.
Toledo (9-3) Paysouti \$79,000.
Toledo (9-3) Paysouti \$79,000.
Toledo (9-3) Paysouti \$79,000.
Toledo (9-3) Paysouti \$1,000.
Toledo (9-3) Paysouti \$1,000.
Toledo (9-3) V.s. Votro Dame (6-5)
Wester (9-5) v.s. Votro Dame (6-5)
Continental Tree Bowl
All Charlotte, M.C.
Boston College (8-3) v.s. North Carolina (8-5)
Essen College (8-3) v.s. North Carolina (8-5)

Emerald Bowl At San Francisco At San Francisco Payout: \$750,000 (ico (7-4) vs. Navy (9-2)

Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Payout: \$2 million
(10-1) vs. Texas Tecl
Silicon Valley Classi
At San Jose, Calif.
Payout: \$750,000
vs. Northern Illinois

Troy (7-4) vs Friday, Dec. 31 Music City Bow At Nashville, Ten Payout: \$780,000 (6-5) vs. Minnesota

5-5) vs. Minnesota (6-5) Sun Bowl At El Paso, Texas Payout: \$1.5 million) vs. Arizon Payout: \$1.5 million Purdue (7-4) vs. Arizona State (8-3) Liberty Bowl

Liberty Bowl (es)

Al Memphis, Tenn.
Payout: \$1.50 million

Boise State (1-1) vs. Louisyille (10-1)

At Aldanta

At Ballas

Powut \$2.2 million

Tennessee (9-3) vs. Texas A&M (7-4)

Otthack Bowl

Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Payout: \$2.75 million
Wisconsin (9-2) vs. Georgia (9-2)
Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Payout: \$1.6 million
Florida State (8-3) vs. West Julion
Capital One Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Payout: \$3.157 million

Payout \$53.87 millio lowa (9-2) vs. LSU (9-2) Rose Bowl Ar Pasadena, Calif. Payout: \$14.5 million Michigan (9-2) vs. Texas (10-1) Flesta Bowl At Tempe, Ariz. Utah (11-0) Monday, Jan. 3 Monday, Jan. 3 At New Orleans

At New Orleans Payout: \$11-14 million Auburn (12-0) vs. Virginia Tech (10-2)

Tuesday, Jan. 4
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Payout: \$11-14 million
Cal (12-0) vs. Oklahoma (12-0)
Saturday, Jan. 15
Gridiron Classic
At The Villages, Fla.
South s. South East-West Shrine Classic At San Francisco

At San Francisco East vs. West Saturday, Jan. 22 Hula Bowl At Maui, Hawaii Aina vs. Kai 7 Saturday, Jan. 29 Senior Bowl

NCAA Div. I-AA playoffs

Semifinals Friday, Dec. 10 on 48. William & Mary 34 James Madison 48, William & Saturday, Dec. 11 Montana 34, Sam Houston Sta Championship Friday, Dec. 17 te 13 At Finley Stadium/Davenport Field Chattanooga, Tenn. nes Madison (12-2) vs. Montana (12-2)

NCAA Div. III playoffs Semifinals Saturday, Dec. 11 n-Baylor 38, Mount U

Mary Hardin-Baylor 38, Mount Ur Linfield, Ore. 52, Rowan, N.J. 0 Championship Saturday, Dec. 18 Stagg Bowl At Salem Stadium Salem, Va. Mary Hardin-Baylor (13-1) vs Linfield, Ore

NAIA playoffs

Championship
Saturday, Dec. 18
At Jim Carroll Stadium
Hardin County, Tenn.
St. Francis, Ind. (13-0) vs. Carroll, Mont (11-2)

High school

Japan wrestling Wednesday's results At Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan At Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan Nile C. Kinnick 33, Yokota 20 101 pounds-Jaybee Kurishima, Yokota, pinned Reggie Barton, 1:50 108-Bobby Antonio, Kinnick, pinned Jeremi-ah Saffold, 1:26

ıh Saffold, 1:26 115-Jason Rodriguez, Yokota, superior de-isloned Nick Carrell, 15-5, 3:28 122-Robert Rodell, Yokota, pinned Phil Iner, 1:38 129-Alex Curtis, Kinnick, pinned Jimmy osti, 2:02

osti, 2:02 135-Mervin Ibanez, Kinnick, pinned George ross. 1:50

iross, 1:50

141-Kenji Doughty, Kinnick, pinned Kyle himabukuro, 1:54

148-Andrew Brown, Kinnick, pinned Justin ross, 3:18

158-Vamato Cibulta Warth 158-Yanı 41. 2:22 ato Cibulka, Kinnick, pinned Mike

Joey Wood, Kinnick, pinned Tony Luik n, 1:41
180-Adam Krievs, Kinnick, pinned Garrett
4cCaw, 1:44
215-James Scott, Yokota, pinned Roderic
7cmas, 1:49
Heavyweight-Randall Pelletier, Yokota, by

ver ile C. Kinnick 32, Zama American 21 pounds-Reggie Barton, Kinnick, by valkover 108-Matt Bohan, Zama, pinned Bobby Anto

115-Adam Godfrey, Zama, pinned Nick Car thony Garcia, Zama, pinned Phil

122-Anthony Gatcia, Zama, primed Josh ohnson, 58 135-Mervin Ibanez, Kinnick, pinned Josh ohnson, 58 135-Mervin Ibanez, Kinnick, by walkover 148-Nick Villasana, Zama, pinned Andrew

1:54 158-Yamato Cibulka, Kinnick, superior de-cisioned Chris Johnson, 12-2, 2:31

168-Joey Wood, Kinnick, pinned Paul ones, 1:22 ones, 1:22 180-Adam Krievs, Kinnick, by walkover 215-Roderic Thomas, Kinnick, pinned Adri-in Calmer, :36

eight-David Burnett, Zama, by

Japan boys basketball Wednesday's summary Nile C. Kinnick 73, Yokota 53 At Yokota Air Base, Japan

Nille C. Klinick 73, Yokota 53
Kinnick 13 12 20 28–73
Yokota Alf Base, Japan
Kinnick 13 12 20 28–73
Yokota
Leading scorers-Kinnick, Travis Ekmark
Z2, Leonard Lynce 17; Yokota, Caiwon Thomas 14, Kenny Harris 11, Shamarr Howell 11.
Noteworthy-Red Devils outscore Pathlers
Season; Panthers lose for first time in five
games.

16 17 19 7-59 16 6 10 5-37 ISSH Leading scorers-Kinnick, Lualhati Johnson 17, Tamika Lynce 15, Jasmine Iordan 8, Lead-ing rebounders-Kinnick, Are'l Brown 7, Tami-ka Lynce 5, Jasmine Jordan 5, Ashley Melin 5. Steals-Kinnick, Tamika Lynce 7, Corinne Ray 5.

Seisen Int'l 44, Yokohama Int'l 19

Seisen YIS 2 7 2 8-19 Leading scorers-Seisen, Teresa Molina 10, Rei Ryan 9.

Deals

Tuesday's transactions RASERALI

MANIEM ANGEL Agreed to terms with SIP Paul BANKELS—Agreed to terms with SIP Paul BANKELS—Agreed contract. The SIP Paul BANKELS—Agreed contract. The SIP Paul BANKELS—Agreed to term and SIP Paul BANKELS—Agreed to terms and SIP Paul Bankels and SIP Paul BANKELS—Agreed to terms with INF Jose Hernandez, on a non-year comment of the SIP Paul Bankels and SIP Thomas Maskety from the Toronto Bale Javy to complete the Nov. The SIP Thomas Maskety from the Toronto Bale Javy to complete the Nov. Takapa Bank Paul Ray—Bankels SIP Thomas Maskety from the Toronto Bale Javy to complete the Nov. Takapa Bank Paul Ray—Bankels SIP SIP Thomas Maskety from the Toronto Bale Javy to complete the Nov. Takapa Bank Paul Ray—Bankels SIP SIP Thomas Maskety from the Toronto Bale Javy to complete the Nov.

TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Agreed to terms with LHP Joe Beimel, RHP Tim Corcoran, RHP serardo Garcia, RHP Jimmy Haynes, OF lamon Hollins, INF Luis Ordaz and INF Earl Snyder on minor league contracts.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Agreed to terms with 3B Corey Koskie on a three-year contract.

National League DIAMONDBACKS—Agreed ARIZONA ms with SS Royce Clayton on a one-yea

commo son as source Lasyum on a one-year SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Agreed to terms with Use Jeff Fassero, LiP Armando Almastero Garage and Sandra S

CHARLOTTE SOBCATS—Placed F Tamar Slay on the injured list. Activated F Theron smith from the injured list. Activated F Theron smith from the injured list. MEMPHIS GRIZZILES—Suspended F Sean Banks Indefinitely for violating team rules. Sanks Indefinitely for violating team rules. Cleaves on the injured list. Activated G ibra-him Kutluay from the injured list. Activated G ibra-him Kutluay from the injured list. Activated Macional Football League

National Football Lea ARIZONA CARDINALS—Placed OT L.I. Shel

the St. Louis practice squad. Signed OT Ben Johnson to the practice squad. CLEVELAND BROWNS—Placed C. Jeff Faine and QB Jeff Garcia on injured reserve. Signed QB Josh Harris and OL Craig Osika from the practice squad. Signed RB Sultan McCullough to the practice squad. Waived OL Chad Beasley, DL Antonio Garay and QB

than Bease, --te Hybl.
HILADELPHIA EAGLES—Signed LB Mike Lathe practice squad. Placed LB

Goodspeed.

COLLEGE

COLORADO—Named Julie Manning assistant athletic director for compliance and financial aid.

DENISON—Named Anthony Gilardi men's

DENISON—Named Anthony Glardi men's assistant lacrosse coach. GEORGIA—Dismissed sophomore F Mar-cus Sikes from the men's basketball team. ILLINOIS—Named Larry Fedora, Joe Wick-line and Dan Disch assistant football coach-

es. MARSHALL—Suspended senior LB Dionte Wilson for the Fort Worth Bowl for an unspecified violation of team rules.

NEW MEXICO STATE—Named McKinley
Boston athletics director.

UTAH STATE—Named Jeff Copp assistant

WEST VIRGINIA TECH-Fired Mauro Monz,

MURRAY, YOU SAID AN ATHLETE GETTING A DISEASE IS LIKE BEING PAID FOR LIVING! I DO A FEW PERSONAL APPEARANCES AND TV COMMERCIALS FOR THE PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY THAT

ARMACEUTICAL COMPANY THAT (ES THE DRUE I TAKE, AND YOU'D MAKE ME \$500K A YEAR!







PAGE 26 NFL statistics NFC individual leaders **AFC** individual leaders Week 14 Week 14 Att C 288 3919 2784 46 23 14 Green, K.C. Brady, N.E. 3636 3031 1987 1708 2636 3066 3248 Bulger, St.L Favre, G.B. Warner, NY-G 288 227 181 154 237 244 242 Pennington, N Volek, Ten. Leftwich, Jac. Carr, Hou. Plummer, Den 13 Avg LG TD 5 4.8 40 8 7 4.5 25t 10 4.7 44 10 4.1 52 7 3.9 42 14 7 4.9 52 6 4.4 42 1 5 4.5 51t 4 2 3.8 41 9 2 4.6 33t 14 shers Att 289 306 276 291 292 220 238 234 240 Yds 1395 Yds Avg LG TD 1385 4.9 44 12 James, Ind. Martin, NY-J Dillon, N.E. R. Johnson, Cin Tomlinson, S.D. Brown, Ten. Taylor, Jac. Droughns, Den. McGahee, Buf. Holmes, K.C. Barber, NY-G Portis, Was. Green, G.B. Jones, Det. Vick, Atl. Dunn, Atl. 1385 1238 1173 992 859 821 72t 10 64t 5 90t 6 74 3 58 2 60 7 258 298 219 4.8 3.9 4.5 1309 1194 1143 1067 1059 1046 922 Westbrook, Phi Smith, Ariz McAllister, N.O. 165 202 187 Holmes, K.C. 196 892 934 946 843 1052 878 896 838 1046 1011 No 80 79 74 73 71 71 70 66 65 63 Avg 14.4 11.8 12.8 11.5 14.8 12.4 12.8 12.7 16.1 16.0 15.4 Avg 14.6 10.8 15.7 14.7 14.0 14.9 C. Johnson, Cin Mason, Ten. Gonzalez, K.C. Gates, S.D. Johnson, Hou. Moulds, Buf. Horn, N.O. Coles, Was. Owens, Phi. Holt, St.L Jackson, Sea. Bruce, St.L Walker, G.B. Clayton, T.B. Muhammad. No 81 76 75 74 74 72 59t 75t 56t 56 Moulds, Buf. Harrison, Ind Ward, Pit. J. Smith, Jac. Bennett, Ten. Wayne, Ind. 1058 988 1060 707 15.1 14.1 15.4 10.2 Yds LG 2662 65 2705 63 3990 61 2861 60 Avg 44.4 44.3 44.3 43.3 Yds 2654 LG 67 Lechler Oak Lechler, Oak. Smith, Ind. Hentrich, Ten. Scifres, S.D. Hanson, Jac. Moorman, Buf Gardocki, Pit. Jo. Miller, N.E. Larson, Cin. Turk, Mia. Berger, N.O. Tupa, Was. Bidwell, T.B. 1660 2473 2386 2714 2796 2741 1879 2863 38 57 55 63 65 64 44 68 Maynard, Chi. Landeta, St.L Player, Ariz Johnson, Phi. McBriar, Dal. Feagles, NY-G 43.3 43.3 43.0 42.7 42.3 41.9 3771 58 1733 63 3352 57 2389 2620 2597 Northcutt, Cle. Hall, K.C. Sams, Bal. Smith, Den. Lewis, Jac. Clements, Buf. Moses, Hou. Welker, S.D.-M Parker, S.D. Moss, NY-J Yds Avg 13.2 13.0 831 751 24 31 37 24 17 20 31 19 23 Rossum, Ati. McQuarters, Chi. Lewis, N.O. Frazier, Dal. Burleson, Min. Battle, S.F. Thrash, Was. Chatman, G.B. 212 227 258 284 312 212 225 911 711 43 20 29 861 27 35 32 46 Jones, NY-G 22 26.0 26.0 26.0 26.0 26.0 McGee, Buf. Randle El, Pit. Hall, K.C. Dwight, S.D. B. Johnson, N. __ummond, Det. Ferguson, G.B. Ponder, NY-G Cox, T.B. Betts 1092 448 552 675 99 71 38 59 Dwight, S.D. B. Johnson, N.E. Alston, Cle. Moses, Hou. Gabriel, Oak. McAddley, Ten. J. Carter, NY-J 966 923 1136 24.8 23.1 22.3 Betts, Was. Lee, Dal. Broussard, Car 18 41 23 428 964 539 70 62 49 Reed, Phi. Lewis, N.O. Azıımah, Chi 619 1052 708 22.9 22.9 22.8 46 66 51 73 Holmes, K.C. Tomlinson, S.D. Harrison, Ind. Bettis, Pit. Martin, NY-J Davis, Hou. Gates, S.D. Wayne, Ind. Dillon, N.E. Blaylock, K.C. McGahee, Buf. Stokley, Ind. TD R 90 84 78 72 72 66 66 66 62 54 Alexander, Sea. Owens, Phi. Barber, NY-G Muhammad, Car. Moss, Min. Pittman, T.B. Walker, G.B. Horn, N.O. 11 10 9 9 Smith, Ariz Westhrook, Phi. 0 Kicking PAT 9 Kicking PAT 39-39 32-32 25-25 FG Akers, Phi. Longwell, G.B. J. Brown, Sea. Carney, N.O. Andersen, Min. Wilkins, St.L 26-30 20-23 22-24 21-24 16-20 16-20 48 53 50 39-39 38-38 31-31 Vinatieri, N.E Graham, Cin. Stover, Bal. 53 48 53 Stover, Bal. Kaeding, S.D. Elam, Den. Vanderjagt, Ind. Tynes, K.C. Brien, NY-J Lindell, Buf. Reed, Pit. 25-26 18-23 21-25 14-17 14-17 20-23 17-20 17-22 98 96 95 88 86 85 Christie, NY-G Cundiff, Dal. Hanson, Det. T. Peterson, S.F. 25-25 16-22 28-28 15-20 25-25 16-20 19-19 18-21 **Team statistics** Team statistics AVERAGE PER GAME OFFENSE minnesota Green Bay Seattle Philadelphia St. Louis Dallas New Orleans Indianapoli: Kansas City 296.0 265.5 127.1 134.5 104.5 103.5 111.8 89.8 416.1 383.2 Denver New England San Diego Tennessee New York Jets Jacksonville Cincinnati Houston Oakland 265.0 218.0 129.2 136.9 127.4 148.7 112.7 113.8 109.3 76.2 151.1 116.1 96.3 82.6 126.3 102.6 167.0 93.2 120.6 Tampa Bay New York Giants 89.3 102.5 110.5 Pittsburgh Buffalo Cleveland Miami 267.8 107.9 159.9 Yards 257.0 268.7 79.7 92.3 Washington Tampa Bay New York Glants Philadelphia Atlanta San Francisco 85.2 123.8 137.5 176.4 Buffalo Denver Baltimore New York Jets Miami Jacksonville New England San Diego Tennessee Cleveland 112.8 105.9 206.5 217.5 217.5 Carolina Chicago Detroit 219.6 203.8 217.1 336.5 338.4 132.8 121.3 142.0

Seattle St. Louis Dallas Green Bay Minnesota

138.2

343.7 344.0 345.3 351.3 358.5 115.5 137.5 112.5 228.2

240.5

Duckett to sit out after knee surgery LSU coach

Falcons RB will return for playoffs

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Falcons running back T.J. Duckett is expected to miss one game after undergoing

surgery on his left knee NFL Tuesday. briefs Atlanta coach

Jim Mora said surgery to repair the meniscus cartilage in Duckett's left knee "went very

well: "We don't expect him to miss more than just this game," said Mora of Saturday night's home

game against Carolina The surgery comes two days after Duckett rushed for a team-record four touchdowns in

a 35-10 victory over Oakland that clinched the South Division title. Duckett, bothered by persis tent swelling in his left knee, had hoped to put off the arthroscopic

surgery until after the season. Because the Falcons (10-3) clinched the playoff berth Sunday with three games left in the regu lar season and could qualify for a first-round bye in the playoffs giving Duckett another week to heal — the team decided to pro-ceed with the surgery.

Erickson meets with Ole Miss, decides to stay with 49ers

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — After a short flirtation with Mississippi. Erickson recommitted himself to the San Francisco 49ers on Wednesday - for three more weeks, at least.

Erickson withdrew from consideration for Ole Miss' vacant head coaching position after two-hour meeting with school's athletic director and chancellor on Tuesday night. He plans to finish the season with the 49ers, and hopes to coach the

team next season. "I feel like I want to finish this thing, if I have the opportunity Erickson said after practice at the 49ers' training complex. "It was more of an interest in looking into the college situation. It doesn't really have anything to do with the San Francisco 49ers. I just wanted to look into it, and I did."

Erickson has three seasons and \$7.5 million remaining on his con-

NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, fol-lowed by team's prognosis. (See Satur-day's edition for complete injury report provided by the league): Browns: C Jeff Faine (ankle) out for rest of season. Buccaneers: Teams....

rest of season. Buccaneers: TE Will Heller (hip) out for rest of season. Lions: LB Boss Bailey (knee) out for rest of season.

rest of season.

Niners: CB Ahmed Plummer (neck) out for rest of season.

Redskins: K John Hall (quad) out for rest of season.

tract with the 49ers, but his future is far from secure.

Kitna likely to start for Bengals CINCINNATI - Carson Palmer was still on crutches Wednesday and resigned to missing the Cincinnati Bengals' next game be-

cause of a sprained left knee. Jon Kitna ran the offense in practice, getting ready to make his first start of the season against Buffalo. Kitna was the league's Comeback Player of the Year last season, but hadn't taken a snap

until Palmer got hurt last Sunday. "I know he's excited," Palmer said. "I'm happy for him. He's getting a chance. I and the rest of the team are completely confident in him, that he's going to go out and not lose a step from where this of-

fense has left off." The offense has put together three three consecutive 450-yard games for the first time in franchise history. Palmer twisted his knee when he was tackled in the third quarter of Sunday's loss at

Palmer will stay on crutches until Saturday.

Lions sticking with Harrington ALLEN PARK, Mich. - Joey

Harrington still is Detroit's No. 1 quarterback. "He's been the starter all along

and while we had some discus sion about the quarterback position, and some other positions, we decided to stay the same at that position," Lions coach Steve Mariucci said Wednesday.

Harrington has struggled as the Lions (5-8) have lost six of seven games and his last outing might have been his worst. He was five of 22 for 47 yards in a 16-13 loss at Green Bay, which overcame a 13-0 deficit in the second half.

Dolphins talk with about job

The Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. - LSU coach Nick Saban has talked to the Miami Dolphins about their vacant head coaching position.

In a statement issued by LSU on Wednesday. Sahan described the talks as "a preliminary conver-

with the Dolphins to exchange ideas about head coaching position

"No decisions were made in this meeting and they will continue their

search for a coach." Saban said "I will continue to be committed to LSU, our football program and totally focused on our bowl game versus Iowa.

LSU (9-2) meets Iowa (9-2) on Jan. 1 in the Capital One Bowl.

Dolphins President Eddie Jones said he and owner Wavne Huizenga met with Saban, but did not divulge any other specific details on the meeting and, like Sahan, stressed that no choices have been made.

"In keeping with our policy to conduct this search with integrity, prior to speaking with Coach Saban we did contact LSU interim chancellor William L. Jenkins to inform him of our meeting," Jones said in a statement re-

leased by the team.

Dolphins interim coach Jim Bates said he hasn't yet discussed the prospects of leading the team in 2005 with Huizenga, but added that conversation will take place later this week.

Saban notified LSU in writing about the meeting with the Dolphins, said athletics director Skip Bertman. Bertman said Saban "has been forthright in his communication with the university about this and I support him in

any direction that he may take. Dave Wannstedt resigned as Miami coach in November after the Dolphins' 1-8 start and was replaced on an interim basis by Bates, the team's defensive coor-

Haze: Weak NFC North favors Vikings

HAZE, FROM BACK PAGE

"I've never owned a team that I've seen anybody anymore together than what all of the people are in place on this team at this time," McCombs said. "Players, coaches, staff, all together.'

Yes, solace comes from solidariand from the standings. The Vikings still can take the NFC North - needing only to win their three remaining games, regard-less of what the Packers do. Even just one more victory could get Minnesota a wild-card spot.

Indeed, three of the five defeats during this skid have come by a total of 10 points. Moss, a nonfactor for five games with a partially torn hamstring, is just about at full strength. Though the offense has just three second-half points over the last two games, quarterback Daunte Culpepper is enjoying a career season and he's got a very capable core of running

And while the defense continues to self-destruct in the first half, the Vikings have given up a

total of 26 post-halftime points in the last five weeks. Lance Johnstone and Kevin Williams have 10 sacks apiece, tied for fourth in the league. No signs of quitting or lock-

er-room dissension, either, as was sometimes the case during Green's tenure.

"The goals that we set for us back in training camp, back in minicamp, they're still there for us to reach," free safety Brian

Russell said. Achieving them will require a very unVikings-like finish.

Southern Miss shuts down N. Texas to open bowl season

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS -Mississippi coach Jeff Bower re lied on an array of linebacker blitzes to slow down freshman running back Jamario Thomas

The scheme stifled North Texas' passing game as well

Southern Miss ended Thomas' streak of 100-yard games at even, sacked quarterback Scott Hall six times and got a 62-yard touchdown on Michael Boley's interception of an attempted screen pass. The result was a 31-10 victory in the New Orleans Bowl on Tuesday night, Southern Mississippi's first postseason triumph in four years.

"The key was getting pressure on the quarterback and make him throw quick. No quarterback wants to be out of rhythm," Bower said. "Sometimes when you do that you get a little more effort. When you blitz and go fast you maybe pick up the tempo a little bit

Boley, named MVP of the first bowl of the postseason, made eight tackles, including two

As for the Southern Miss offense, Dustin Almond threw for 247 yards. He had a touchdown pass and ran for a score in the opening quarter, giving the Golden Eagles an early lead they never relinquished.

North Texas' season had been defined by adversity overcome.

Ouarterback Andrew Smith died in a car accident just before training camp, starting running back Patrick Cobbs injured his knee in the second game and never returned, and the Mean Green lost their first four games before winning seven straight to earn their fourth straight trip to the New Orleans Bowl.

But Southern Miss (7-5), which narrowly lost to No. 4 California earlier this month, outplayed North Texas throughout. USM finished with a 403-212 advantage in total yardage, with Southern Miss running back Anthony Harris gaining 104 yards on 14 carries.

North Texas, the four-time Sun Conference champion, dropped to 1-3 in the New Orleans Bowl. Thomas, a freshman who missed his final regular-season game with a sore hamstring,



North Texas quarterback Scott Hall is sacked by Southern Mississippi linebacker Michael Bolev during second half of the New Orleans Bowl.

finished with 92 yards on 30 car-

"The biggest thing they did defensively was sending rovers off the outside edges, which gave us problems in the running and passing games," North Texas coach Darrell Dickey said. "We didn't play our best football. We couldn't run like we're accus-

Hall was held to just 57 yards passing through three quarters. He finished 15-for-30 for 134

yards and two interceptions.
"They brought it today," Hall said. "Guys were coming off the edge all night. They took away

our play-action game.' USM's relentless defensive pressure included a key first-half play in which Hall rushed a third-and-goal throw that sailed over the outstretched arms of a wide-open Beau Davidson in the

That forced the Mean Green to settle for Nick Bazaldua's 24-yard field goal - their only score until Hall's 10-yard TD pass to Johnny Quinn with 1 second left in the

Boley stretched to grab Hall's screen pass and ran it all the way back to give Southern Miss a 24-3 lead with 12:52 remaining.

They ran the same play earlier in the game . . . and threw it right by me." the linebacker said. "I just kind of stopped, got in the throwing lane and luckily he threw it to me."

Southern Miss 31, N. Texas 10 14 3 0 14-31 0 3 0 7-10

Journal Miss.

13 0 14-31
0 3 0 7-10
Orth Fexas 0 3 0 7-10
USM-Graves 37 pass from Almond (Mccaleb kick), 11:01.
USM-Almond 1 run (McCaleb kick), 6:13.
Second Quarter
NT-EC Baradius 24 10:08

Second Quarter
NT—FG Bazaldua 24, 1008.
USM—FG McCaleb 45, 115.
USM—Boley 62 Interception return (McCaleb kick), 12:52.
USM—Moorel Trun (McCaleb kick), 12:52.
USM—Moorel Trun (McCaleb kick), 12:62.
NT—Quinn 10 pass from Hall (Bazaldua kick), 01.
A—27,253.

First downs 32-156 39-78 247 134 16-30-1 15-30-2 Passing Comp-Att-Int Time of Possession 27:32 shing—Southern Miss, Harris re 10-33, Thomas 4-24, Weakley d 3-(minus 7). N. Texas, Thoma d 3-(minus 7). N. Texas, Thoma

Passing—Southern Miss, Court 16-30-1-247, N. Texas, Hall 15-30-2-134, Receiving—Southern Miss, Court Receiving Southern Miss, Courington 5-57, Graves 3-58, Perine 2-25, Thomas 2-3, Williams 1-47, Harris 1-33, Lawrence 1-17, Youn 1-7. N. Texas, Quinn 8-92, Blount 3-13, Culberson 1-10, Mitchell 1-8, Jackson 1-7, Th-omas 1-4.

M. Jones sues Conte, denies using steroids

SAN FRANCISCO — Olympic track star Marion Jones filed a defamation lawsuit Wednesday against BALCO head Victor Conte, who told a national TV audience that he gave her steroids and watched her inject herself with them

Jones is seeking \$25 million in the suit, alleging Conte tarnished her reputation when he made the statement Dec. 3 on ABC's "20/20."

Conte and three others connected to the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative were indicted in February by a federal grand jury for a variety of alleged offenses, including illegally distributing ste-

The suit, filed in U.S. District Court in San Francisco, said Jones passed a lie detector test and includes a statement from her doctor saving she never used steroids. Jones won three gold medals and two bronzes during the 2000 Summer Games in Syd. ney, Australia.

Conte's statements, the suit said, "are false and malicious,

In an e-mail to The Associated Press, Conte said the lawsuit was "nothing more than a PR stunt by a desperate woman, who has regularly used drugs throughout her career. I look forward with all confidence to the court proceedings as I stand by everything I said on the '20/20' special

Conte, BALCO vice president James Valente, track coach Remi Korchemny and Greg Anderson, the personal trainer for baseball slugger Barry Bonds, face federal indictment on a range of accusa-

Orgeron's father: Ole Miss has hired USC assistant

JACKSON, Miss. - Mississippi has hired Southern California assistant Ed Orgeron to coach the Rebels, Orgeron's father told The Associated Press on Wednesday. Ole Miss scheduled a news con-

ference Thursday to introduce a new coach, school spokesman Langston Rogers said, though he declined further comment. "It's a done deal," Edward Org

eron Sr., the coach's father, said Wednesday in a phone interview from his home in Larose, La. Athletic director Pete Boone was in southern California on Wednesday, but would not con-

firm the hiring of Orgeron. SEC will fine schools if fans rush the field

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. - South eastern Conference schools could face fines of as much as \$50,000 if fans come onto the field or court during football or basketball

The policy was approved by all SEC schools and took effect Dec. 1 It states that "access to competi tion areas shall be limited to participating student-athletes, coaches, officials, support personnel and properly credentialed individuals at all times."

"This policy is designed to cre-ate a safe environment for our student-athletes, coaches, staff and fans," SEC commissioner Mike Slive said Tuesday, "Our institutions felt that this was a step that needed to be taken."

Sports briefs

Four Oregon State players won't play in Insight Bowl

CORVALLIS, Ore. - Four suspended Oregon State players won't be reinstated to play in the Insight Bowl on Dec. 28 against

Coach Mike Riley announced that Joe Rudulph, Brent Bridges, Anthony Wheat-Brown and Whitfield Usher cannot practice with the team as it prepares for the bowl game in Phoenix.

The suspensions stem from two separate incidents at the Headline Cafe in Corvallis, including an assault on an Oregon National Guardsman.

Oregon State (6-5) finished tied for third in Pac-10.

De La Hoya will return to welterweight division

SAN JUAN - Oscar De La Hoya said he will not retire from boxing and plans to return to the welterweight division.

De La Hoya said he has no immediate plans on future bouts but ruled out staying in the middleweight division, in which he lost his last fight in a ninth-round knockout against undisputed champion Bernard Hopkins

"I'm not retired at all," De La Hoya told El Nuevo Dia newspa-per in Puerto Rico. "From 147 to 150 [pounds], that's my natural weight. It's almost impossible to do something in the 154 or 160 divisions. It's too heavy for me.

The Olympic champion in Barcelona in 1992 has held titles in six weight divisions from lightweight to middleweight.

Charge dropped after Tyson completes community service

NEW YORK - Mike Tyson closed the book Wednesday on one of his many run-ins with the law: his brawl last year with two men outside a Brooklyn hotel

Wearing a pink button-down shirt, leather jacket and cap pulled low over his eyes, Tyson made his way through a clump of photographers and the occasional fan to a downtown Brooklyn courtroom.

former heavyweight champ had completed the 100 hours of community service imposed when he pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct under an agreement with prosecutors, lawyer Mel Sachs told the judge. "He's had a remarkable effect

on the children of the communi-" Sachs said

With prosecutors' consent, the judge dismissed the charge against Tyson and ordered the record sealed. Sachs called the decision "a victory for Mike Tyson."

Bush, not Leinart chosen USC's MVP

LOS ANGELES - Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Matt Leinart wasn't even selected the most valuable player on his own team. That honor went to running

back Reggie Bush at No. 1 South-ern California's annual awards banquet Tuesday night. Bush finished fifth in the Heisman voting. The awards were determined

by a vote of the players.



Lewis, Sonics push **Bryant-Allen aside**

Kobe Bryant put his feud with Karl Malone behind him just in time to revisit one with Ray Allen. After the two traded barbs in

October, Bryant outscored Allen in their first meeting of the season. But Rashard Lewis bested everyone with 37 points Tuesday night to lead the 18-4 Seattle SuperSonics past the Los Angeles Lakers 108-93.

Too much focus was on Ray Allen tonight and I got a lot of open shots and I took advan-



took advantage," Lewis said "Even though it was Ray and Kobe I felt like

Kobe was talking to us as a team. We're a team and we're going to

back each other up."

Bryant, who had 35 points and nine rebounds, said before the game he was done commenting on his relationship with Malone Bryant had accused Malone of making a pass at his wife during a game Nov. 23.

T've said what I have to say on that matter," Bryant said. That left his feud with Allen.

who during the preseason ques tioned Bryant's ability to lead the Lakers Bryant responded by telling a reporter not to put Allen's name in the same breath as his. Allen scored 26 points and glad-

ly deferred to Lewis, wite 7-for-12 from three-point range. deferred to Lewis, who shot "Rashard was the guy at the other end of the floor for us that

kept us in the game and allowed us to take control," Allen said. "I don't know if teams have re spected him yet to where they have to take him out of the of

Bryant's supporting cast did little to back him up as the Lakers fell to 8-9 when their superstar is

the leading scorer. Caron Butler added 16 points but aside from Bryant's 12-for-23

shooting performance, the Lakers made just 20 of 58 shots It's Seattle's best start since be ginning the 1993-94 season 20-2

on the way to 63 wins. The Sonics have the second-best record in the NBA and will host league-lead ing Phoenix on Friday night. 76ers 110, Nuggets 102: A

Philadelphia, Allen Iverson had 31 points and 10 rebounds, and reserve Willie Green scored his sea son-high 17 points in the final 16 minutes as Philadelphia rallied from an 18-point deficit.

Andre Iguodala scored 16 points and Samuel Dalembert had 10 points and 11 rebounds for the 76ers, who won their third straight.

Carmelo Anthony scored 29 points and Kenyon Martin had a season-high 25 points for Denver.

Bobcats 94. Hornets 93 (OT): At Charlotte, N.C., Emeka Okafor had 20 points and 12 rebounds and hit a pair of free throws with 5 seconds left in overtime to give Charlotte's new NBA team a victory over its old one. New Orleans (1-19) lost for the

11th straight time. David Wesley led the Hornets with 23 points.



Seattle SuperSonics forward Rashard Lewis (7) is congratulated by Vladimir Radmanovic at the end of the first quarter Tuesday in Seattle. Lewis had 17 of his 37 points in the first quarter of the Sonics' 108-93 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers.

Knicks 87, Nets 79: At East Rutherford, N.J., Jamal Crawford scored 30 points for New York, which held New Jersey without a basket for 15:02 in the second

Richard Jefferson scored 22 points for the Nets, who missed 17 shots in a row and committed

13 turnovers during the drought. Timberwolves 100, Trail Blazers 89: At Minneapolis, Wally Szczerbiak scored a season-high 28 points, including the 5,000th of

his career, to lead Minnesota. Kevin Garnett had 19 points and 19 rehounds for the Timber. wolves in coach Flip Saunders 400th career victory.

Zach Randolph had 16 points and 14 rebounds for Portland

Kings 89, Bucks 86: At Mil-

waukee, Chris Webber hit a three-pointer at the buzzer for surging Sacramento

Mike Bibby had 27 points and Webber 23 for the Kings, who won for the 14th time in 16

Pacers 108. Hawks 97 (OT): At Atlanta, Jamaal Tinsley scored

29 points and Indiana snapped a seven-game losing streak. Fred Jones scored 21 points and Reggie Miller 19 for Indiana,

which ended its longest losing streak since 1993. Delk scored a son-high 22 points for the Hawks

Warriors 111, Mavericks 107: At Dallas, Clifford Robinson scored 25 points and Golden State snapped a 12-game losing streak in Dallas.

Mickael Pietrus added a ca-reer-high 20 points and Speedy Claxton 18 points and 10 assists.

Jazz 93, Clippers 91: At Salt Lake City, Utah's Mehmet Okur scored 19 points — including three free throws in the final 9

Corey Maggette scored 28 points to lead Los Angeles.

NBA scoreboard

| Eastern Conterence | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Atlantic Division | | | | | | | | | |
| | w | L | Pct | GB | | | | | |
| York | 11 | 10 | .524 | - | | | | | |
| ton | 9 | 11 | .450 | 11/2 | | | | | |
| adelphia | 9 | 12 | .429 | 2 | | | | | |
| Jersey | 7 | 14 | .333 | 4 | | | | | |
| onto | 7 | 16 | .304 | 5 | | | | | |
| Southeast Division | | | | | | | | | |
| mi | 16 | 7 | .696 | 2 | | | | | |
| hington | 12 | 7 | .632 | 2 | | | | | |
| ndo | 13 | 8 | .619 | 2 | | | | | |
| rlotte | 5 | 14 | .263 | 9 | | | | | |
| nta | 4 | 17 | .190 | 11 | | | | | |
| Central Division | | | | | | | | | |
| eland | 13 | 8 | .619 | - | | | | | |
| ana | 11 | 10 | .524 | 2 | | | | | |
| oit | 10 | 10 | .500 | 21/2 | | | | | |
| vaukee | 6 | 13 | .316 | 6 | | | | | |
| ago | 4 | 15 | .211 | 8 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

Western Conference

| | | | | | ta | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|----------|--|--|
| Southwest Division | | | | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB | - | | |
| an Antonio | 17 | 5 | .773 | - | Sc | | |
| allas | 15 | 9 | .625 | 3 | SC | | |
| ouston | 9 | 12 | .429 | 71/2 | 0, | | |
| emphis | 9 | 14 | .391 | 81/2 | 1 | | |
| ew Orleans | 1 | 19 | .050 | 15 | 2. | | |
| Northwest Division | | | | | | | |
| eattle | 18 | 4 | .818 | _ | | | |
| innesota | 14 | 7 | .667 | 31/2 | | | |
| enver | 12 | 9 | .571 | 51/2 | fo | | |
| ortland | 10 | 10 | .500 | 7 | 0- | | |
| ah | 10 | 12 | .455 | 8 | 2- | | |
| Pacific Division | | | | | | | |
| noenix | 18 | 3 | .857 | - | bi 13 | | |
| cramento | 15 | 6 | .714 | 3 | Y | | |
| A. Lakers | 12 | ğ | .571 | 6 | Ţ. | | |
| A. Clippers | 11 | 10 | .524 | 7 | 6) Te | | |
| olden State | 7 | 14 | .333 | 11 | 01 | | |
| Tuesday' | 's gar | nes | | | FI | | |
| Philadelphia 110, Denver 102 | | | | | | | |
| Charlotte 94, New Orleans 93, OT | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

Wednesday's gan benver at Boston Miami at Washington Portland at Cleveland Minnesota at Toronto Chicago at Memphis Golden State at New Orleans Atlanta at Houston Orlando at San Antonio Utah at Phoenix

hoenix Thursday's games

Tuesday 76ers 110. Nuggets 102

Bobcats 94, Hornets 93 (OT)

DBUILDERS 75, TRUITIERS 75 (UP)

REW ORLEANS - Frelje 48 0-9 10, Lynch
3-7-71 3, Brown 7-12 3-31 7, Marrington 9-13
3-7-71 3, Brown 7-12 3-31 7, Marrington 9-13
4-7-22, Westey 7-16 7-22, Dichau 26 0-0 4,
wards 9-10-0. Totals 34-76 19-22 93.
CHARLOTTE - Wallace 7-15 3-5 17, Okafor 7-11 6-8 20, Brezze 3-7 0-0 6, Bogans 4-13
2-11, Might 3-72, 8, Ep 4-9 15, Dichau 1-4
2-11, Might 3-72, 8, Ep 4-9 15, Dichau 1-4
2-11, Might 3-72, 8, Ep 4-9 15, Dichau 1-4
2-11, Might 3-11, M

int Goals—Nev Three-Point Goals—New Orleans 6-12 (Har-rington 2-2, Wesley 2-4, Freije 2-4, JSmith 0-1, Dickau 0-1), Charlotte 2-5 (Kapono 2-2, Hart 0-1, Bogans 0-2, Foulde out—Dickau Freije, Rebounds—New Orleans 45 (Anders-en 13), Charlotte 60 (Okafor 12), As-sists—New Orleans 27 (Wesley, Harrington 7), Charlotte 23 (Anglet 11), Total fouls—New Orleans 26, Charlotte 23, A-13,589 (23,319).

Pacers 108, Hawks 97 (0T)

INDIANA — J.Jones 3-7 2-2 10, Foster 4-5 -3 10, Harrison 5-6 2-2 12, Tinsley 10-22 6-8 9, R.Miller 6-12 5-5 19, FJones 8-15 4-4 21, alaislip 0-0 0-0 0, Johnson 1-3 1-1 3, Curry 2-2 -0 4, Totals 39-76 22-25 108. ATLANTA — Harrington 8-18 4-7 21, Walker 6-11 4-8 17, Collier 1-3 2-2 4, Dlaw 3-10 0-0 6, J.Smith 0-3 0-0 0, Delk 10-17 1-2 22, Drobn-jak 4-11 2-3 10, Anderson 1-2 2-2 4, Childress

0-0 2-2 2, Ivey 5-8 1-1 11, Willis 0-1 0-0 0. To-tals 38-84 18-27 97.

e Three Second, Indiana ttlanta Defensive Three Son. A—7,975 (19,445).

Knicks 87, Nets 79

NEW YORK — T.Thomas 1-7 0-0 2, K.Tho as 5-7 4-4 14, Mohammed 3-9 2-6 8, Craw ard 8-21 10-11 30, Marbury 4-12 3-4 12, J.Will NEW J. Scalabrine 2-9 Collaboration 2-14 (2000) Rev Med 2-15 (2000) Rev J. Re

scalaberine 23 e. 9.4. Collina 23.4 e. 0.4. Jeffers on 18 e. 10.2 kide 10.9 e. 10.8 e. 10.9 e.

Kings 89, Bucks 86

SACRAMENTO — Stojakovic 6-16 2-2 19 rebber 11-24 0-0 23, Miller 3-8 0-0 6, Bibby

Timberwolves 100, Blazers 89

talis 45-90 6-7 100.
Portland
Minnesota
Three-Point Goals—Portland 6-14 (Anderson 2-4, 25 toudamire 2-5, Van Exel 2-5), Minnesota 4-14 (Szczerbiak 2-3, Sprewell 1-3, Grif-23 19 26 21— 89 23 22 25 30—100 ortland 6-14 (Ander-

fin 1-4, Cassell 0-1, Holberg 0-1, Hudson 0-2). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Portland 50 (Randolph 14), Minnesota 55 (Garnett 19, Assists—Portland 29 (Van Exel 7), Minnesota 29 (Cassell 13). Total fouls—Portland 11, Minnesota 14. Technicals—Minnesota Defensive Three Second. A—15,103 (19,006).

Warriors 111, Mavericks 107 GOLDEN STATE — Murphy 8-16 3-4 20 Junieavy 3-11 0-0 7, Robinson 9-14 4-5 25 Claxton 6-15 4-4 18, Richardson 7-14 0-0 14

Dallas Three-Point Goals-Golden State 9-20 (Rob-Inson 3-4, Claxton 2-4, Pietrus 2-5, Murphy 1-1, Dunleavy 1-4, Richardson 0-2), Dallas 4-13 (Stackhouse 2-4, Finley 2-5, Nowitzk 0-1, D.Armstrong 0-3), Fouled out-D.Armstron «-13 (закажношяе 2-4, Finney 2-5, Nowitzin 0-1, D.Armstrong 0-33, Fouled out D-Arm-strong, Rebounds—Golden State 53 (Richard-son 8), Dallas 50 (Howard 10), Assists—Gold-en State 24 (Claxton 10), Dallas I—Golden State 24, Dallas 22, Technicals—Golden State Coach Montgomery, Mowitzin. 2–19,551

Jazz 93, Clippers 91

L.A. CLIPPERS — Simmons 4-9 0-0 8, Brand 4-12 11-12 19, Kaman 2-4 1-2 5, Jaric 7-13 2-2 18, Maggette 9-14 9-10 28, Moore 1-3 4-5, Kittles 0-1 0-0 0, Wilcox 1-2 0-0 2, Brun-son 2-6 0-0 4, Ross 1-4 0-0 2. Totals 31-68

26-30 91. UTAH — Harpring 5-8 6-7 16, Boozer 5-15 3-5 13, Okur 6-10 7-8 19, Arroyo 3-7 0-0 6, Bell 4-13 3-4 12, Borchardt 1-4 1-2 3, Giricek 4-7 2-2 12, Lopez 2-2 0-0 4, Humphries 0-2 0-0 0, Snyder 1-2 0-0 3, Eisley 1-4 3-4 5. Totals 32-74 75-37 93

SuperSonics 108, Lakers 93

SuperSonics 108, Lakers 93
L. LAMES 9. Butter 512 4.15, 0dom
3-10 2-48, Mihm 14-719, Alden 2-9 2-2, Co.
8-9yant 12.29 8.03, 20ne 59-12.27 2.05, 0do
3-10 2-48, Mihm 14-719, Alden 2-9 2-2, Co.
8-9yant 12.29 8.02, 20ne 59-12.27 2.05, 20ne
3-12, 20ne 13-22, 20ne



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STARS STRIPES.



Expansion has constricted NHL economics



In a talent-diluted league, NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and the owners believe the only way to achieve long-term economic stability is through a salary cap.

n terms of drawing public opinion to their side, the NHL players made an excellent move in offering an unprecedented giveback of 24 percent of their salaries last week

In terms of putting an end to the NHL lockout, the players traveled in reverse.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and NHLPA President Bob Goodenow met for more than three hours in Toronto on Tuesday, and it surprised absolutely no one that no progress was reported in their discussions.

In fact, word already had leaked out before the meeting, in the form of an NHL memo obtained by TSN in Canada, that the owners would reject the players' 236-page proposal across the

Bettman said the owners' counter proposal, one that again Tim Cowlishaw



Nothing

not accept, immediwas ately rejected. We've reluctantly before this and will say it again: There

said

will be no 2004-05 NHI season. No games. No playoffs.

The owners made it clear again Tuesday that they are interested in far more than a salary reduction. They have shut down the game at a time when the sport's appeal is at an all-time low in order to achieve a new economic model.

The players say: "What do you

guys want? We're giving you back almost \$300 million in salary for

The owners say: "We don't want to put a bandage on a broken system. We are getting a new system, and let us know when you're interested in being part of it."

The two sides continue to talk around each other rather than to each other. As long as that remains the case, there will be no NHL games

What the players accomplished with their offer to drastically re duce salaries is to portray the owners as the real bad guys in this fight. They showed a willingness to give back millions and trust the owners not to go crazy in overspending again.

They did this because they know the owners don't trust themselves and all it takes is a couple of owners to go crazy, and the system breaks down again, and the next thing you know Pierre Tur-

geon is getting \$7 million. But Bettman and the owners have created that system by expanding to the point of ridiculousness Rettman wanted to spread hockey's footprint. In so doing, he

created his own Bigfoot. Big footprint, yes. But, basically, no one ever sees it.

The NHL needs 30 teams like the Dallas Cowboys need more

41-year-old quarterbacks. With too many teams and not enough elite difference-making players, the players always will maintain the upper hand in forcing owners to overspend. Fewer teams would spread the talent supply, and that's what Bettman needs to be focusing on instead of propping up poorly run organizations in cities that don't support hockey on the backs of successful organizations in cities that do

With what would have been the midseason point just around the corner, there is no real chance of salvaging the season. Owners have indicated their lack of interest in doing so without a salary

They see the cap as the answer to all of their problems, and yet they know that there are some teams that can make money on a \$60 million payroll while others would lose money on a \$30 million payroll. Their continuing pursuit of

"cost certainty" makes one ask exactly what industry were those owners in that allowed them to buy hockey teams, and did those industries have "cost certainty?"

And so, for now, the players have won the smallest of battles. They have offered hundreds of

millions in salary concessions in order to give the game back to the fans, and the owners have slapped them down.

As a result, the players have saved face with the public. Mike Modano looks a little less greedy today than he did a week ago, not that he's running this show or that he's ever done anything beyond taking the money Dallas Stars owner Tom Hicks offered him.

Now it's up to the owners to convince NHL fans that they really know what's best, that shutting down an entire season is going to enhance the game's future

Bettman made this pledge to hockey fans in Toronto on Tues-"We will make it right for day. vou." he said.

It's getting harder and harder to believe he has an idea of either how or when that will happen.

Tim Cowlishaw is a columnist for The Dallas Morning News. Play the

Challenge









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Washington's deal for Expos placed in jeopardy

D.C. council's ballpark-financing package could cause baseball to reopen search

BY BRETT ZONGKER The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Raseball fans in the nation's capital might not have long to cheer their new team.

The District of Columbia Council voted 7-6 Tuesday night to approve legislation that would finance construction of a ball-

But it contained a provision that could cause the baseball commissioner's office to reopen the search for a long-term home for the Expos franchise, which has been tentatively renamed the Nationals

The legislation was amended to require private financing for at least half the stadium construction costs, a provision not contained in the September agreement between baseball and Washington Mayor Anthony A. Williams.

"We will review the amendments and the legislation as passed and have a response [Wednesday]," said Bob DuPuy, aseball's chief operating officer.

One response came almost immediately The team postponed a news conference scheduled for Wednesday to unveil its new uniforms. No explanation was given

The group that tried to lure the Expos to Northern Virginia was prepared to revive

"I don't think we've ever stopped," Norfolk group head Will Somerindyke Jr. said Wednesday. "We always wanted to keep this area an option. If the opportunity aris es for the Expos again, we are going to be standing there along with everyone else.

"Whether we could get something done by next year. I think that's a stretch." he added. "It would be very, very tough."

Somerindyke's organization has returned the denosits it collected on nearly 10,000 season tickets and almost 100 luxuy boxes during its drive to get the Expos. He didn't think it would be difficult to get those deposits back.

Council Chair Linda W. Cropp's amendment passed on a 10-3 vote after she threatened to withhold support from the overall package if the provision wasn't approved. Cropp said she didn't think the change violated the city's agreement with baseball. but would pressure Williams to find a pri-

vate financier. "I am not trying to kill the deal," said Cropp, who introduced the private financ-ing measure. "I'm putting some teeth in it because I'm really disappointed with what I got from Major League Baseball."

Williams refused to answer questions after the vote

"We'll have to see how baseball reacts said Councilman Jack Evans, a baseball proponent. But he said he expects the council will have to change the legislation to keen the deal alive

"We'll have until the end of the year to change this." Evans said. City Administrator Robert Bobb said

city negotiators were talking with baseball officials, but he didn't expect the owners to accept the change.

If the law stands, baseball's most likely response would be to have the team play the 2005 season at Washington's RFK Stadium while baseball's search committee resumes negotiations with cities that want the team.

One option could be Las Vegas, which was among the cities competing for the Expos and is still lobbying for a team. Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman campaigned at last week's winter meetings, arriving accompanied by showgirls wearing feathered headdresses.

Baseball opponents in Washington said the change makes the deal more equitable. "All we're asking for is private financing

for half the stadium," said Councilman Adrian Fenty, who voted against the final legislation, "That shouldn't be a problem, Associated Press writer Derrill Holly contributed to this story.

Brother: Renteria to sign with Boston

Deal for free-agent All-Star shortstop reported to be for four years, \$40M

BY JIMMY GOLEN The Associated Press

BOSTON - All-Star shortstop Edgar Renteria is nearing an Sox on a contract, his brother said Wednesday.

The deal is worth \$40 million over four years with an option for a fifth season, a baseball source told The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity. The deal was not final, but Edison Renteria told the AP that an agreement on the terms was reached Tuesday night.

"We will travel to Boston later this week to define the details of the four-year contract," he said in a telephone interview from Bar-ranguilla, Colombia, "Edgar is very happy. The conditions are ex-

Red Sox President Larry Lucchino declined to comment on Renteria and never mentioned the player by name when saying the World Series champions honed to have an announcement in the next day or two

"An All-Star and Gold Glove infielder would be a great addition to this or any other team." Lucchino said

The deal was first reported by The Boston Globe, which quoted Edgar Renteria in a story posted on its Web site Wednesday

"I like to play on a winning team like Boston, St. Louis or any team that has the opportunity to win," the paper quoted him as saying. His decision came down to the two nennant winners and he said the Red Sox were "more interested in my playing for them."

Lucchino said the team has a policy not to comment on deals until they are complete, but "players are free to speak their minds whenever they like. We are happy that players are excited to

The Red Sox intensified their efforts to sign Renteria after three-time Cy Young winner Pedro Martinez passed on Bos-

ton's three-year, \$40.5 million offer and said he would sign with the New York Mets Red Sox General Manager

Theo Epstein said at the winter meetings that Martinez would not necessarily be replaced by an equally pricey pitcher. Instead, money set aside for him or catcher Jason Varitek - a free agent who is expected to command \$50 million over five years - might instead be spent on upgrading other positions.

"We will redeploy the money that would've been spent," Lucchi no said after Martinez chose the Mets. "That's a considerable amount of resources to redeploy.

Renteria was a four-time All-Star and two-time Gold Glove winner with a .289 career average in six years with the St. Louis

Cardinals. He made the final out in Boston's sweep of the Cardinals, grounding out to pitcher Keith Foulke.

The Red Sox had been worrying about a shortstop since la winter, when they tried to trade five-time All-Star Nomar Garciaparra before he entered the last year of his contract. The deal for then-AL MVP Alex Rodriguez fell through, but Garciaparra was so wounded by the trade talks that his attitude suffered and Boston sent him to the Chicago Cubs at the trading deadline.

The Red Sox got shortstop Orlando Cabrera, along with first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz, in return, improving the defense that led the AL in unearned runs and sparking Boston to a wild-card berth.

Cabrera, who is also Colombi-an, batted .294 with six homers and 31 RBIs with the Red Sox. He hit .288 and played errorless ball



Edgar Renteria

in the postseason as Boston won its first World Series since 1918 The Cardinals have shown a lot of interest this offseason in signing Cabrera, a free agent.

Associated Press reporters Ronald Blum and Jairo Anchique contributed to this

Slugger Sexson agrees to four-year deal with Mariners tion to go ahead with the talks. The current pen that had a 5.12 ERA last season, sec-

SEATTLE - The Seattle Mariners, needing to add power to one of the weakest lineups in the major leagues last season, agreed Wednesday to a four-year contract with free agent first baseman Richie Sexson.

The 6-foot-7 Sexson, a career .271 hitter. is coming off an injury-shortened season with the Arizona Diamondbacks. He hurt his left shoulder twice and did not play after May, batting .233 with nine homers

"I feel great and I am looking forward to getting back on the field," Sexson said.

Still, his proven power made him an attractive free agent Sexson, who turns 30 on Dec. 29, hit 45

homers for Milwaukee in 2001 and 2003, and he has four career 100-RBI seasons.

He has 200 career home runs and has averaged 32 homers and 94 RBIs each season over the past four years, despite the injury last season.

"I am very excited about coming home

MIR briefs to play for the Mariners," said Sexson, who is from Brush Prairie, Wash, "My preference all along was to sign with Seattle and to re

turn to the Northwest Seattle has struggled in recent years to score runs. Last year, the Mariners ranked last in the AL in runs (857), RBIs (658) and home runs (136).

Players, owners resume steroid talks NEW YORK - Lawvers for baseball's

players' association and owners resumed talks Tuesday aimed at a new agreement to toughen rules on steroid testing. Neither side commented on the session

which was described as a part of the process. Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig wants more testing, harsher penalties and additional banned substances

The executive board of the players' association last week gave its staff authorizaagreement, criticized by management and politicians, runs through the 2006 season

Bradley begins serving jail sentence

CUYAHOGA FALLS, Ohio - Los Ange les Dodgers outfielder Milton Bradley began serving a three-day jail sentence on Wednesday for driving away while being issued a speeding ticket more than a year

Bradley's appeals in the case were exnausted last week when the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that the trial judge did not unfairly sentence him. He also argued that the offense did not merit jail time and would hurt him professionally.

Reds sign relievers Weathers. Weber

CINCINNATI - Right-handers David Weathers and Ben Weber agreed to one-year contracts Wednesday with the

Weathers and Weber, both 35, join a bull-

ond-worst in the major leagues ahead of only Colorado

Red Sox add left-hander Halama BOSTON - The Red Sox added John

Halama to their pitching staff Wednesday, persuading the versatile left-hander to join the World Series champions with a contract that could keep him in Boston through 2006. Halama was given one year with a mutu-

al option for a second. He was 7-6 with a 4.70 ERA in 34 games for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays last season.

Monroe pleads not guilty to shoplifting PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. - Detroit Ti-

gers outfielder Craig Monroe pleaded not guilty Wednesday to shoplifting a belt.

Police arrested Monroe on a misdemeanor charge Dec. 3 after they say he wrapped the \$29.99 belt around his waist and tried to leave without paying for it.

Louisville's tuneup for UK is ragged

LOUISVILLE, Ky. - Larry O'Bannon wasn't concerned about a nossible career-high

He had 25 points Tuesday night to lead No. 13 Louisville to an 85-51 victory over

North Carolina A&T on Tuesday night. That was one point shy of the senior swingman's best output, last season at Memphis.

"Some of the fellows pointed it out," said O'Bannon, who was 10-for-14 from the field and had 11 rebounds in leading the Cardinals to their fifth straight victory

"I really wasn't worried about it."

Francisco Garcia added 12 points and Ellis Myles had 11 points and 10 rebounds for Louisville, which shot 43.2 percent from the field (29-for-67) but only 18-for-33 from the free throw line. The Cardinals turned the ball over 22 times but

forced North Carolina A&T into 24 turnovers and outrebounded the Aggies 58-40.

But the Cardinals gave up 19 offensive rebounds, and that didn't please Louisville coach Rick Pitino, whose team hosts No. 9 Kentucky on Saturday.

"We called a timeout to specifically talk about blocking out, and the very next time down the floor, we didn't do it," Pitino said. "We're still not blocking out like we are supposed to. We got a 'W' tonight, but we didn't play our 'A' game.

North Carolina A&T (1-8) shot 28.1 percent for the (20-for-71), including

three-point range The Cardinals (6-1) broke from a 12-point halftime lead with a 12-5 run that put them ahead 52-33 with 141/2 minutes to play.

'We just had more manpower," O'Bannon said Sean Booker's three-pointer with 9:16 to play got the Aggies (1-8) within 62-45, but a 9-2 run by Louisville pushed the lead to 70-47 with 7:45 to play. Lorenzo Wade had two three-pointers and O'Bannon added a layup during the spurt.

Booker, a Louisville native, led the Aggies with 19

points while Steven Koger had 13. "Louisville is a great team, they are very smart



North Carolina A&T's Jeff Alvis, right, challenges a shot by Louisville's Taquan Dean on Tuesday. Louisville shot 54 percent from the line (18 of 33), committed 22 turnovers and gave up 19 offensive rebounds.

with the ball," said Aggies coach Jerry Eaves, former Louisville assistant who played on the Cardinals' 1980 NCAA championship team. "Right now, they are a little broken down. They don't have the depth that they need.

In Tuesday's other Top 25 game:

No. 7 Duke 88. Illinois-Chicago 55: Shelden Williams had 23 points, 14 rebounds and seven blocked shots while J.J. Redick added 21 points for host Duke, which improved to 7-0 for the fourth time in five seasons and blocked a school-record 18 shots.

Duke shot 49 nercent and used a 21.0 run snanning halftime to turn the game into a rout. The Blue Devils held the Flames (3-4) to one field goal over a 71/2-minute snan

Diverse field to vie for Pacific wide basketball tournament title at Osan

Stars and Stripes

Nine men's and seven women's teams from around the Pacific are to converge on Osan Air Base, South Korea, in the coming days for the 14th Osan Pacificwide Open Holiday Basketball Tourna-

The diverse field features three out-of-country teams, including defending women's champion Queens of Okinawa and three high school teams: Seoul American's girls and boys and Osan American's boys - the most prep teams ever in the tournament.

"It's going to be good," tournament director and Osan sports and fitness director Tony Mason "We have some competitive teams participating. We're excited, just happy to have it back at

The tournament was held annually from its 1987 inception through 1998 but in the past six years has been held just twice. It went by the boards from 1999 through 2001 because Osan's new fitness and sports center was being built; it was called off last year because of budget cuts.

While fitness and intramural sports are considered Air Force core" programs, "varsity is one of those programs predicated on available funding," said Mason, adding that the money simply wasn't there last year. New leadership within Osan's

51st Services and newfound fund ing helped make the tournament possible this year, Mason said.

"The selling point is, it provides entertainment and gives a taste of home with these high-caliber players participating," he said.

Some will play in just part of the tournament. Osan's boys and Seoul's girls asked to play in only the round-robin portion. Still, that gives Osan's boys four games and Seoul's girls six, which, Mason said, will help elevate their game.

Players on base teams "can pro vide a mentoring for the high school players, talk to them about how to improve and develop their game, and someday they can play at the elite level." Mason said.

Tournament play begins at 12:30 p.m. Saturday and runs through Thursday's championship games, at 5:30 p.m. for women and 7:30 p.m. for men.

14th Osan Pacificwide **Open Holiday Basketball** Tournament

Dates: Dec. 18-23

Site: Main fitness and sports center, san Air Base, South Korea.

Osan Air Base, South Korea.
Format: Combined round-robin/double-elimination tournament. Nine men's teams divided into two pools, one of four teams, the other of five. Seven women's teams in one pool. Eight of nine men's teams and six of seven women's teams guaiffy for playoffs. Seoul American grained Osan Andre Geaboops will only play the round-robin phase.

only play the round-robin phase.

Schedule of events All events at Osan fitness and sports center. Coaches' meeting 8 am. Saturday, Opening cermony II am. Saturday, First games 1250 pm. Saturday, Round-robin pames begin at 10 am. Tuesday, Championship pames Thursday, 4510 pm. for men with "The-necessary" game to follow at 720 pm. and 720 pm. and 720 pm. for men with ceremony to follow last game.

ceremony to follow last game.

Participating teams: Men, Osan Defenders, KunSan Wolf Pack, Yongsan
Runnin Rebels, Camp Humphreys Bulldogs, Suwon Trall Blazers, Seoul AmeriHigh School Cougars, South Korea:
Andersen Bombers, Guam; Spotlight, Okihawa. Women, Queens, Okinawa; Osan
Defenders, Kunsan Wolf Pack, Camp
Humphreys Bulldogs, Yongsan Runnin'
Rebels, Suwon Parthers, Seoul Amerian High School Falcons, South Korea:

Majerus hired by USC, will coach next season

BY BETH HARRIS The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - Rick Majerus will come out of retirement to coach Southern California's basketball team starting at the end of the season, but will begin recruiting for the Trojans immedi-

He will fill the assistant's job vacated when Jim Saia was promoted to interim head coach after Henry Bibby was fired.

Although he will be active in recruiting, Majerus will not be on the bench for games and isn't expected to attend practices. He will

take over as head coach April 1. The former Utah coach, who re-tired last January in his 15th sea-son with the Utes because of health reasons, was signed by

USC on Wednesday.

He immediately resigned his post as an ESPN basketball ana-

lyst to avoid a conflict of interest. "I'm looking forward to my return to coaching," Majerus said in a statement. "I missed it more than I ever imagined. There was no coaching opportunity in America, except the USC job, that I would have left ESPN for."

He signed a multiyear contract His salary was not disclosed.

The school fired Bibby last week four games into his ninth season, and gave Saia the job on an interim basis for the rest of the season. The Trojans are 1-1 since Saia took over. Bibby had a 131-111 record at USC and took the Trojans to three NCAA tourna-

The 57-year-old Majerus was in the first year of a five-year deal with ESPN and was expected to pay a negotiated buyout to the net-ESPN.com said. worked his last game for the network Monday night in Philadelphia, where Wake Forest beat

Temple.

Maierus coached Utah to the national championship game in 1998, losing to Kentucky, one of the school's 10 NCAA tournament appearances during his tenure. His other coaching stints were at Ball State, Marquette and with the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks as an assistant.

Majerus said he's looking for ward to joining USC football coach Pete Carroll in the athletic department.

"If he needs Brown-type player on occasion, maybe I'll wander by football practice and plug up the offensive line," the portly coach said, refer-ring to the 340-pound former Green Bay defensive tackle

Athletic director Mike Garrett said: "This is an amazing day for the USC men's basketball program. Rick Maierus is one of America's great coaches and he is one of the sport's true personali-

College coaches, NCAA attempting partnership

BY JIM O'CONNELL The Associated Press

NEW YORK - It wasn't hard for college basketball coaches to get to know NCAA President Myles Brand. He went and met

The former president of Indiana took over his new position in January 2003. Ten months later he was asking the basketball coaches what they needed from the governing organization to help the sport.

On Wednesday, at a news conference at Madison Square Gar-den, Brand, three of college basketball's most prominent coaches and others involved in athletic administration revealed what they think is the answer - the College Basketball Partnership

The working group of about 25 has already met twice — in June in New York and October in Chicago - and the next session will be at the Final Four in St. Louis. It is designed to address the challenges and opportunities facing the sport, which has an \$11 billion contract for the rights to its nostseason tournament.

"This is our game and we're proud of what it is and what it will be," Brand said. "This is an effort to focus on the future of our

Brand approached Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson, then the president of the National Associa-tion of Basketball Coaches, in October 2003 about attending the mandatory summit the organization had called to address ethics

"It was a big moment for us to have the NCAA president attend our meeting and his entire staff was there and that was historic We had never had that happen at one of our meetings," Sampson said. "That was the start of what is a unique partnership.

Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim said this isn't just about coaches'

"In the past, the legislation we would want would be coaches' ideas only with no modification, no strategy, no plan," Boeheim

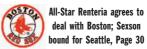
He then brought up last April's repealing of the 5-8 rule, which limited basketball programs to signing no more than five recruits in any one class, and no more than eight in two successive

The coaches had been adamant in saying it hurt programs and

"The legislation was brought forward because Dr. Brand asked us about it and because he and his staff worked at it and looked at it," Boeheim said. "It's the cooperation we've had on that legislation that we want to take forward with this group."

The group didn't get into specifics of what the partnership might go after next although the current legislative changes to coaches' access to players and recruiting rules certainly will be addressed

SPORTS





Fading into a purple haze

Late swoon puts Vikings at risk of missing playoffs

BY DAVE CAMPBELL
The Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — The Minnesota Vikings were convinced they wouldn't end this season like they did the last, when a 6-0 start was wiped out by a 3-7 finish. Well, they could be right. This season

might be worse.

Fresh off their fifth loss in seven games, the Vikings are 7-6 and coach Mike Tice's future is in question. For Minnesota's tortured football fans, these circumstances are hauntingly familiar. This franchise can surely compete with anyone in the disappointment department.

"Right now things don't look very cheerful," said Tice, who spent much of his Monday playing Dr. Phil to those needing therapy after a 27-23 home defeat to struggling Seattle.

"You want all your goals to come out exactly as you planned ... not many times does it come out exactly the way you dreamed about."

Over their 44-year history, the Vikings have been one of the NFL's most consistent winners — but something always keeps them from greatness. As people who root for the rival Green Bay Packers love to point out, Minnesota was beaten in all four Super Bowl appearances — the last coming after the 1976 season.



Linebackers E.J. Henderson, left, Chris Claiborne, center, and Keith Newman, right, watch the Vikings fall apart Sunday



Minnesota Vikings quarterback Daunte Culpepper, left, is brought down by Seattle Seahawks defensive end Antonio Cochran, right, on the last play of the Seahawks 27-23 victory Sunday in Minneapolis, the Vikings' fifth loss in seven games.

Coach Dennis Green won 100 games in 10 years, but his teams frequently choked in the playoffs. The most memorable, or cringe-inducing, of those disasters came in the NFC championship game following the 1998 season. The team that went 15-1 and set the league's all-time sooring record blew a late lead and lost in overtime at home to the Altanta Falcons.

Two years later, the Vikings dropped their final three regular-season games to lose the NFC's top seed and were embarrassingly eliminated by New York in the conference title game at Giants Stadium, 41.0

Tice's rebuilding project seemed to hit stride last year with six straight wins to open the season, but then came a brutal stretch in which Minnesota lost to all four teams that finished 12. The last one, to Arizona on the game's final play, stung the most—and left the Vikings out of the playoffs for a third consecutive year.

Owner Red McCombs, in town for the organization's annual Christmas party, was reminded Monday of a somber plane ride back to San Antonio with his family after that devastating defeat to the Cardinals.

McCombs asked his grandson, Joseph, if his friends would be teasing him the next day in school because the Vikings lost. He said they would, and McCombs asked him how he usually handles it.

"Well we heave "it not the first time"

"Well, you know, it's not the first time," the 13-year-old replied. Nope, it certainly isn't.

Despite a 5-1 start in a soft NFC that suggested a chance for January success, the Metrodome — perennially one of the most difficult places for opponents to play — hasn't been as loud this season.

Especially in situations, like a critical third down for the defense in a tight game or a long touchdown reception by Randy Moss, that normally require earplugs or threaten long-term hearing ability.

It's almost as if these scarred patrons are simply expecting something bad to happen and can't conjure enough energy to lift their voices to the usual high level.

Tice, the league's lowest-paid coach, has managed to maintain his optimism despite the uncertainty. McCombs must decide by Jan. 1 whether to pick up a \$1 million option on the coach's contract for 2005, and inaction would give Tice the freedom to pursue other jobs on Jan. 31.

McCombs has said repeatedly he'll deal with it after the season, but the Vikings' final regular-season game is the day after the deadline and their playoff fate probably won't be decided by then.

If Minnesota doesn't qualify for the postseason, it's hard to imagine Tice coming back. But McCombs reiterated his support this week.

SEE HAZE ON PAGE 26

Former
Utah coach
Majerus to
take over
at USC
starting
next season

Page 31





Fueding Lakers rolled in Seattle



Duckett undergoes surgery now so he'll be ready for playoffs Page 26 D.C. baseball on shaky ground after city council votes on deal Page 30

